

NASA TM-83242

**NASA Technical Memorandum**

83242

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**NECAP 4.1 - NASA'S ENERGY-COST ANALYSIS PROGRAM  
ENGINEERING FLOW CHARTS**

Ronald N. Jensen

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May 25 1982

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National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Langley Research Center**  
Hampton, Virginia 23665



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
<b>2 NECAP INPUT PROCESSOR PROGRAM (NIPP)</b>	
NIPP .....	2-1
PRECAP.....	2-2
DATVER .....	2-6
WEATHER .....	2-9
<b>3 THERMAL LOADS ANALYSIS PROGRAM (TLAP)</b>	
TLAP-MAIN .....	3-1
APOL .....	3-2
CCM .....	3-3
CENTER .....	3-4
DAYMO .....	3-5
DESDY .....	3-6
DST .....	3-7
FILM .....	3-8
HD .....	3-9
HL .....	3-10
HLA .....	3-11
HOLIDAY .....	3-25
HQ .....	3-26
INF .....	3-27
INITIAL .....	3-28
INPUT1 .....	3-31
INPUT2 .....	3-32
LEEP .....	3-33
LOKIN .....	3-34
MATCON .....	3-35
NDOW .....	3-36
PPWVMS .....	3-37
PSY .....	3-38
QMAX .....	3-39
RECAP1 .....	3-40
RECAP2 .....	3-41
RECTAN .....	3-42
REPRT1 .....	3-43
REPRT2 .....	3-44
REPRT3 .....	3-45
REPRT5 .....	3-46
REPRT6 .....	3-47
RESFAC .....	3-49
RMRSS .....	3-50

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
(continued)

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
SCHDUL .....	3-51	
SCHED .....	3-52	
SEARCH .....	3-53	
SETBAK .....	3-54	
SHADOW .....	3-55	
SHG .....	3-56	
STNDRD .....	3-57	
SUN1 .....	3-58	
SUN2 .....	3-59	
SUN3 .....	3-60	
TAR .....	3-61	
WBF .....	3-62	

4 SYSTEMS ENERGY SIMULATION PROGRAM (SESP)

SESP-MAIN .....	4-1
ABSOR .....	4-2
AHU .....	4-3
ALOG .....	4-4
BRAD .....	4-5
CCOIL .....	4-6
CENT .....	4-7
CHILADJ .....	4-8
CHLUSR .....	4-9
CLGTWR .....	4-10
CSIN .....	4-12
DENSY .....	4-17
DUMYIO .....	4-18
DXHP .....	4-19
ECONO .....	4-20
ENGY .....	4-21
EQUIP .....	4-22
ESIZE .....	4-28
EXSUM .....	4-29
FANOF .....	4-30
FCOIL .....	4-31
FHTG .....	4-33
FILM .....	4-34
FSIZE .....	4-35
H2OZN .....	4-38
HUM .....	4-39
INDUC .....	4-40
IUNI .....	4-43
MAX .....	4-45
MXAIR .....	4-46
MZDD .....	4-47

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
(continued)

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
NUMDEV .....	4-50
PPWVM .....	4-51
PROCES .....	4-52
PSY1 .....	4-53
PSY2 .....	4-54
PSYCH .....	4-55
PTLD .....	4-56
RECIP .....	4-57
RHFS .....	4-58
SCLOSE .....	4-60
SESIN .....	4-61
SMEXEC .....	4-62
STEAM .....	4-67
STTUR .....	4-68
SZRHT .....	4-69
TBAND .....	4-71
TEMP .....	4-72
TOT .....	4-73
TRSET .....	4-74
VARVL .....	4-75
VTCSRF .....	4-77
VTHOUR .....	4-78
VTIN .....	4-79
VTINIT .....	4-80
VTLOAD .....	4-81
VTPOHD .....	4-83
WZNEW .....	4-84
ZLO .....	4-85
5 OWNING AND OPERATING COST PROGRAM (ECON)	
ECON .....	5-1



## Section 1

### INTRODUCTION

This manual is one in a set of NECAP manuals referenced below that describes the computer program NECAP - NASA's Energy Cost Analysis Program. The program is a versatile building design and energy analysis tool which has embodied within it, state-of-the-art techniques for performing thermal load calculations and energy use predictions. With the program, comparisons of building designs and operational alternatives for new or existing buildings can be made.

The major feature of the program is the "response factor" technique for calculating the heat transfer through the building surfaces which accounts for the building's mass. The program expands the response factor technique into a "space response factor" to account for internal building temperature swings; this is extremely important in determining true building loads and energy consumption when internal temperatures are allowed to swing.

The algorithms for the thermal loads portion of NECAP comes from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., (ASHRAE) manual, Procedure for Determining Heating and Cooling Loads for Computerized Energy Calculation. The original NECAP was published in 1975 and was supported by two manuals entitled NECAP - NASA's Energy Cost Analysis Program, NASA CR-2590 Part I User's Manual and NASA CR-2590 Part II Engineering Manual. Since that time, NASA has used NECAP for building heating and cooling design loads and energy analysis. The program has been used as a reference for the development of several other computerized programs.

This version of NECAP, called NECAP-4.1, contains the following modifications and improvements:

- o A NECAP input data processor (NIPP) module was developed which greatly simplifies and reduces the user input task. The original fixed format data field suitable for punching onto computer cards has been eliminated in favor of a free format data field suitable for use with computer terminals.
- o Provide built in default values for most input data.
- o The Response Factor module was made an integral part of the Thermal Load Analysis and System modules.
- o The Variable Temperature module and System and Equipment Simulation module were brought together into one module to allow dynamic simulation and interaction (feedback) between the space, its distribution system, and the heating and cooling plant equipment. In the previous version of NECAP, the hourly space temperatures and system heating/cooling loads were calculated using given heating/cooling capacities. Because of varying plant equipment capacity due to ambient conditions, scheduling, distribution system control options, etc., "loads-not-met" resulted in the old program. "Loads-not-met" were not accounted for in space temperature drift above or below the allowed temperature range.

- o Modify the thermostat and ventilation schedule input.
- o Improve fan on/off code.
- o Addition of process loads.
- o Modify the weather tape system.
- o Use system component part load performance curves.
- o Default CFM, chiller size, and boiler size data.
- o Provide an executive summary for energy.
- o Print out a temperature frequency chart.
- o Add more flexibility to print out.
- o Change the glass shade coefficient.
- o Correct air infiltration coefficients, fan efficiencies, and floor panel heating algorithms.

The new program is documented in the following manuals:

TM 83238, Users Manual - Describes examples and output forms.

TM 83239, Input Manual - Details the input requirements.

TM 83240, Engineering Manual - Provides the algorithms for the program.

TM 83241, Fast Input Manual and Example - Gives a fast method of input.

TM 83242, Engineering Flow Charts - Provides flow charts that supplements the Engineering Manual.

CR- 165802, Operations Manual - Gives the specific operating instruction for Langley Research Center's computer system operation.

Program modifications were directed specifically at program improvements and not at a complete rework of the program structure. We wish to acknowledge the contributions made by the project's contractor, GARD, Inc. of Niles, IL, for the various changes and documentation in the program performed under contract NASW-3307. The program's maintenance contractor, Computer Science Corporation, of Hampton, Virginia also assisted in program updates and documentation.

The program is run on NASA, Langley Research Center's large computer system. Users should be cautioned that program implementation can be time consuming and costly. Although computer run costs are much lower than the original response factor programs, they are still a magnitude greater than the simple "bin method" type energy calculation. With this in mind, judgment should be exercised to assure that needs are compatible with the investment. Operational assistance in running the program cannot be provided by NASA.

There are limited means to update the material. Comments on the program are welcomed, although the Government accepts no obligation even if the suggestions are used. Send comments to:

Ronald N. Jensen  
Mail Stop 443  
NASA, Langley Research Center  
Hampton, VA 23665

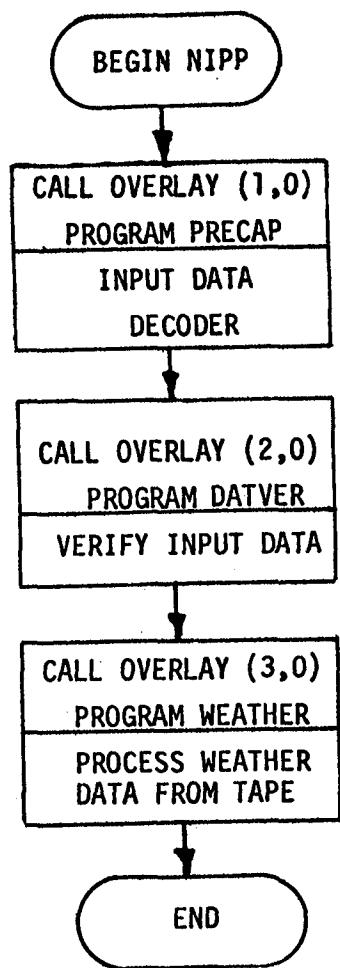
NECAP-4.1 is made up of the following program modules:

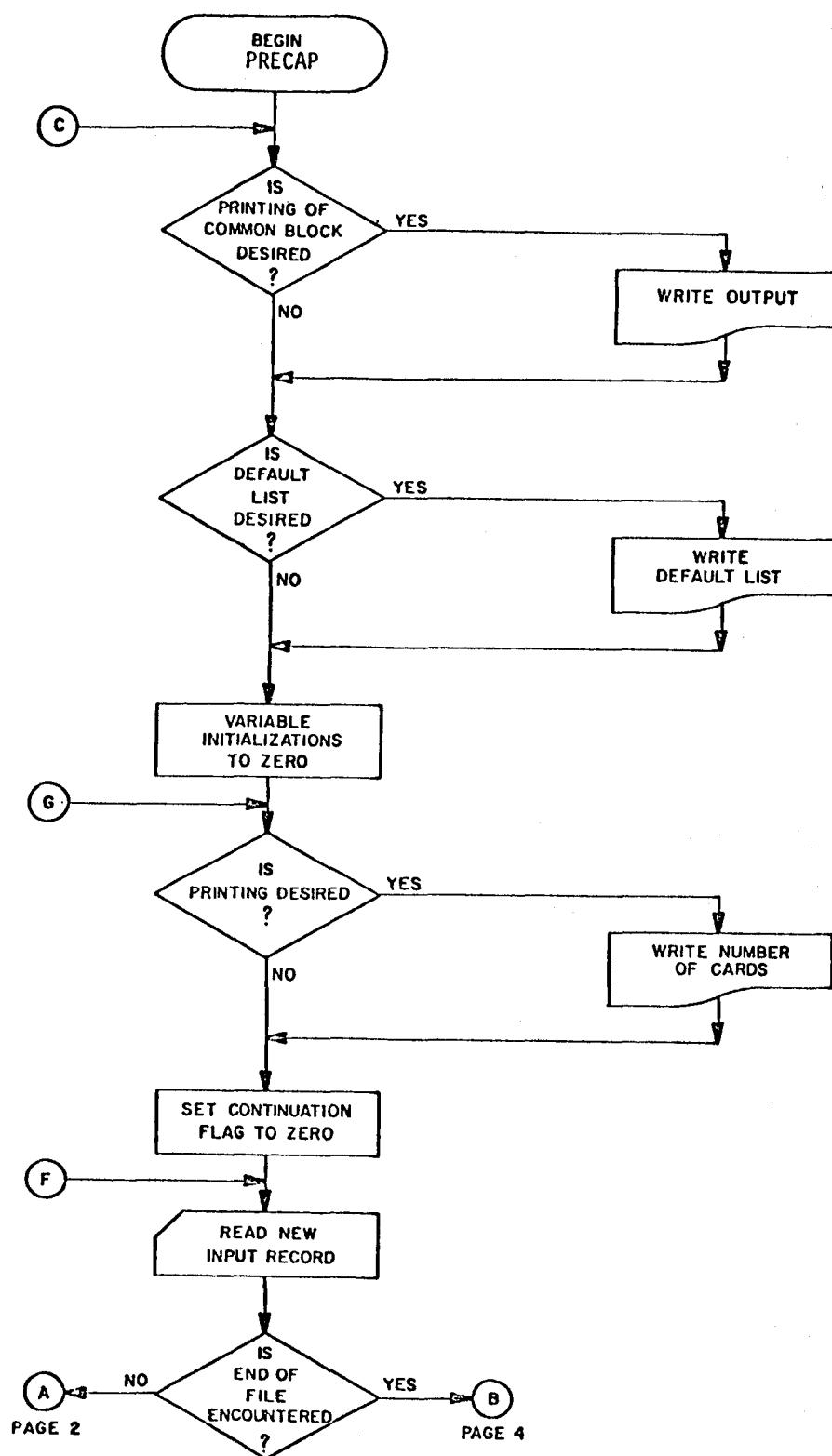
NECAP Input Processor (NIPP)  
Thermal Load Analysis (TLAP)  
Systems Energy Simulation (SESP)  
Owning and Operating Cost (ESCON)

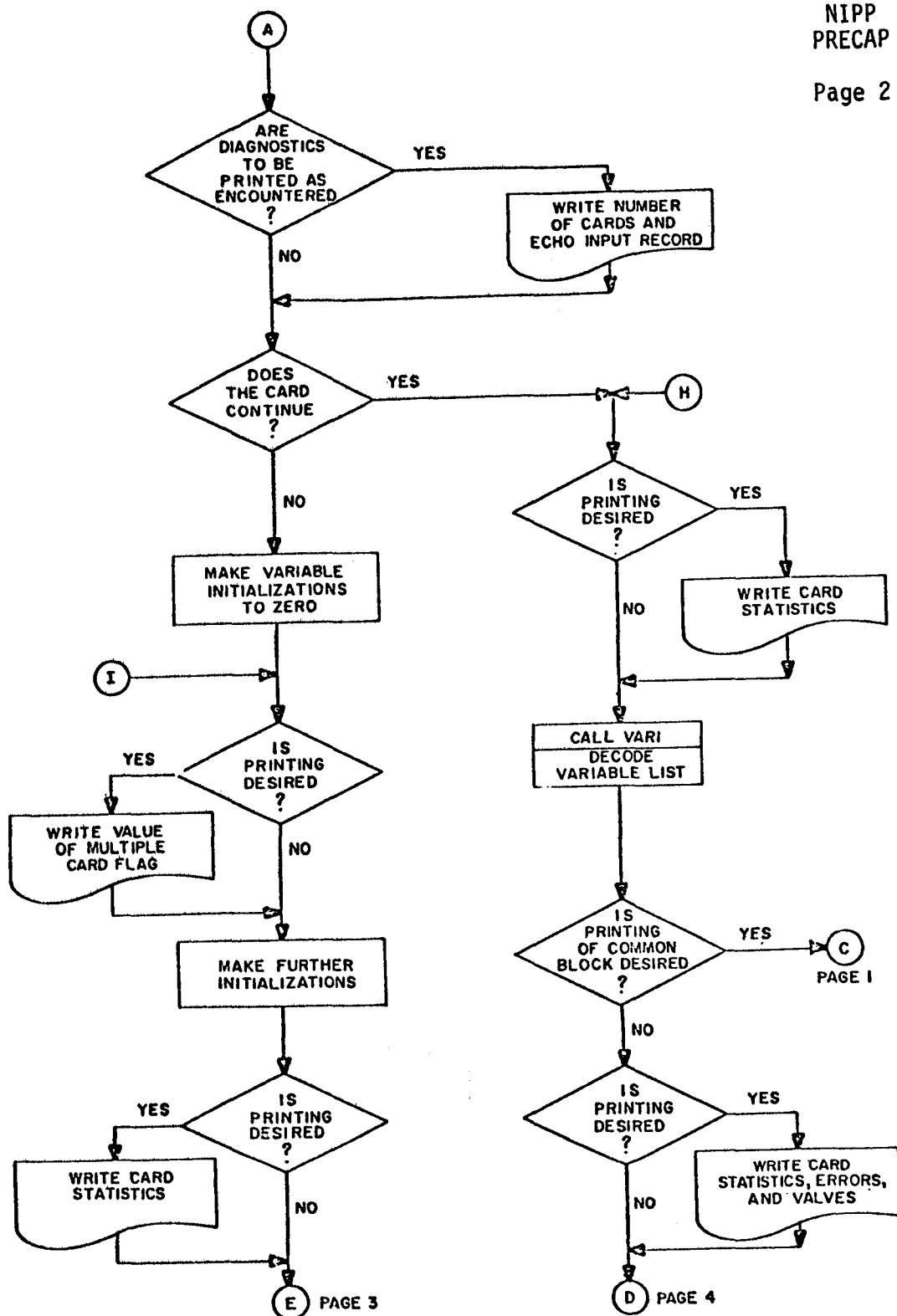


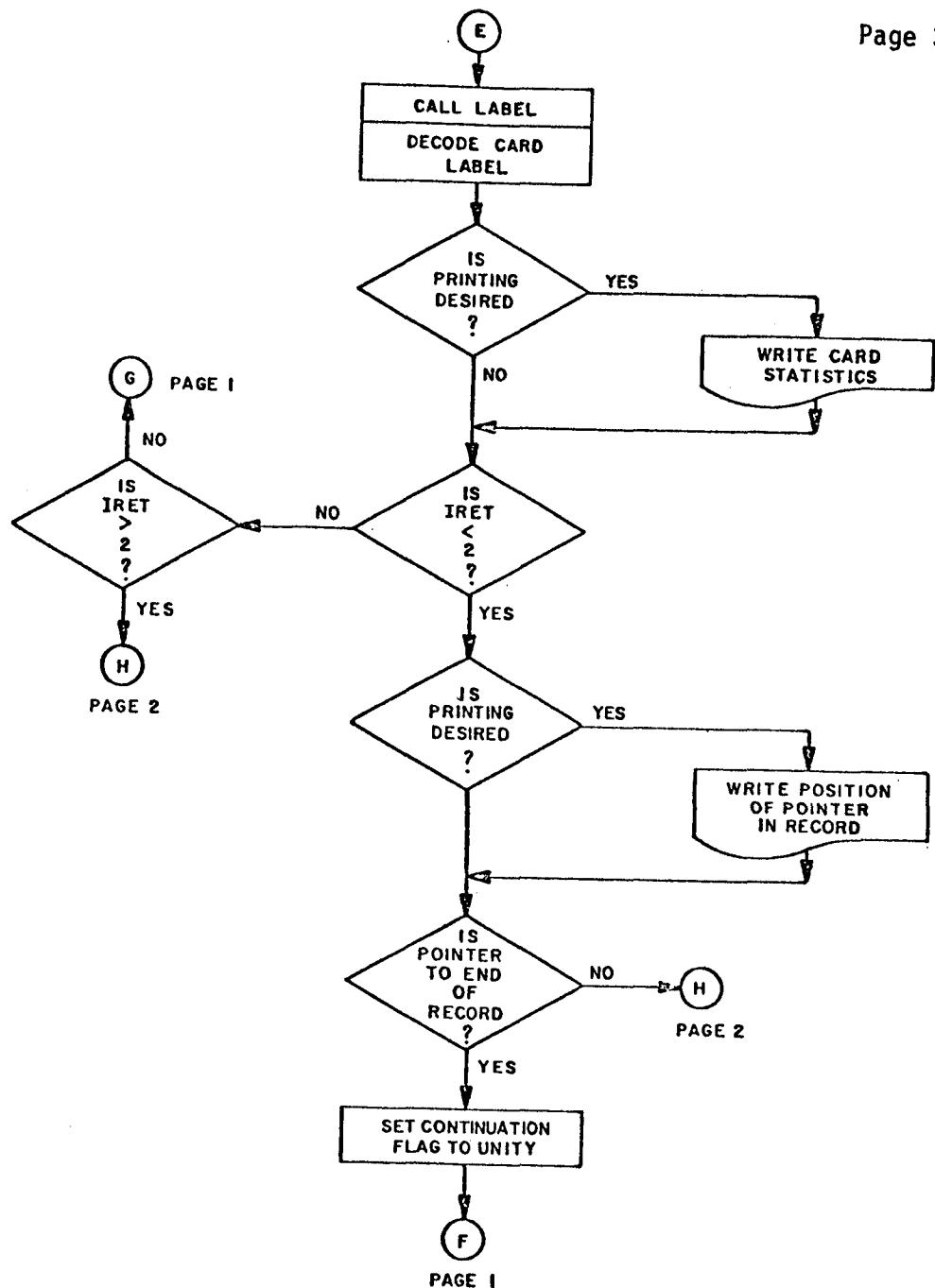
**Section 2**  
**NECAP INPUT PROCESSOR PROGRAM**

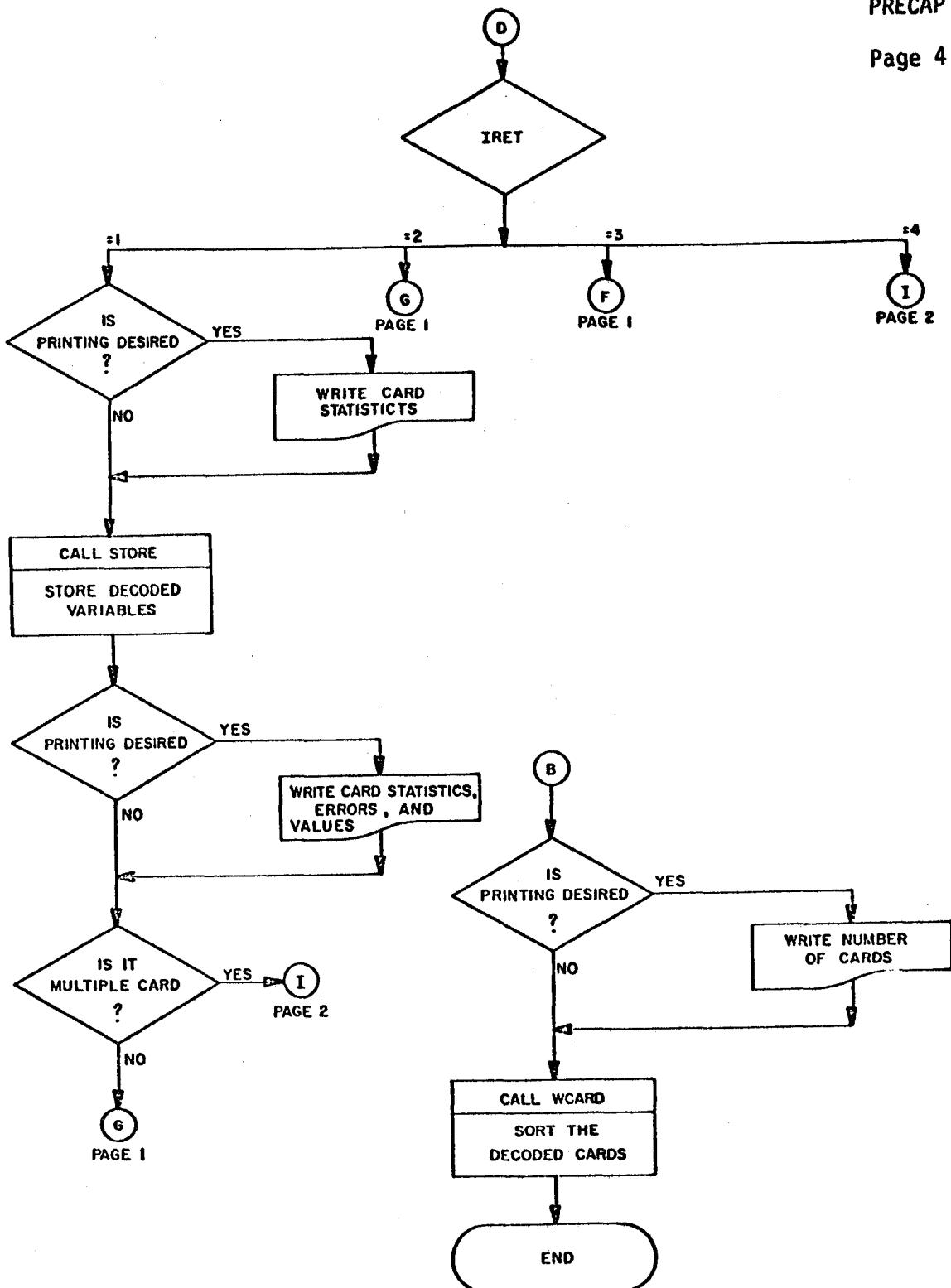


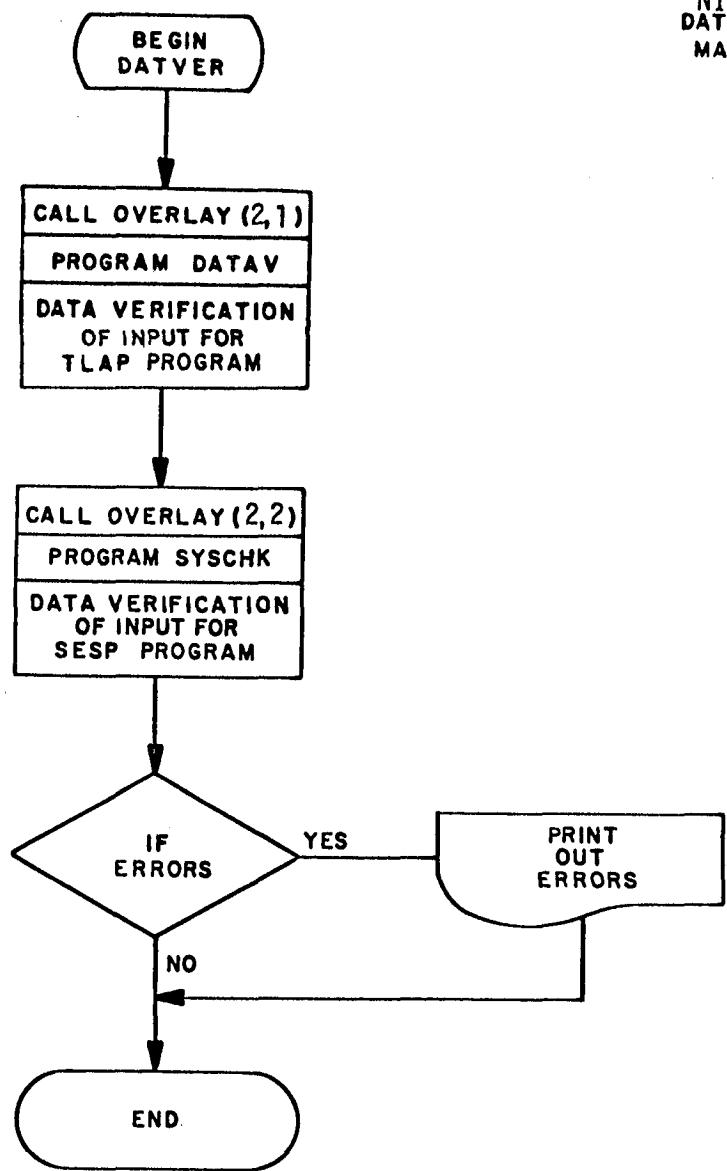


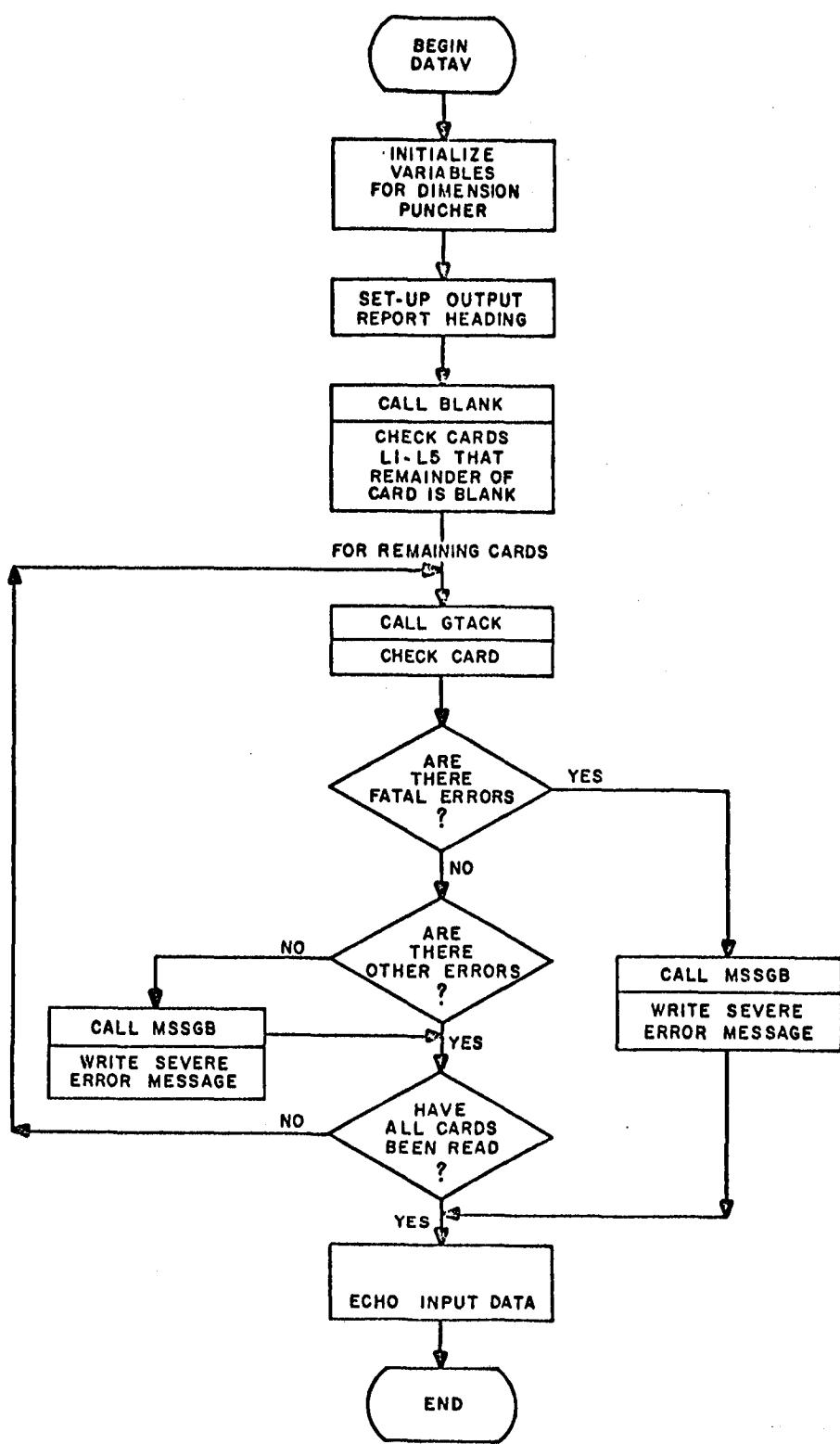


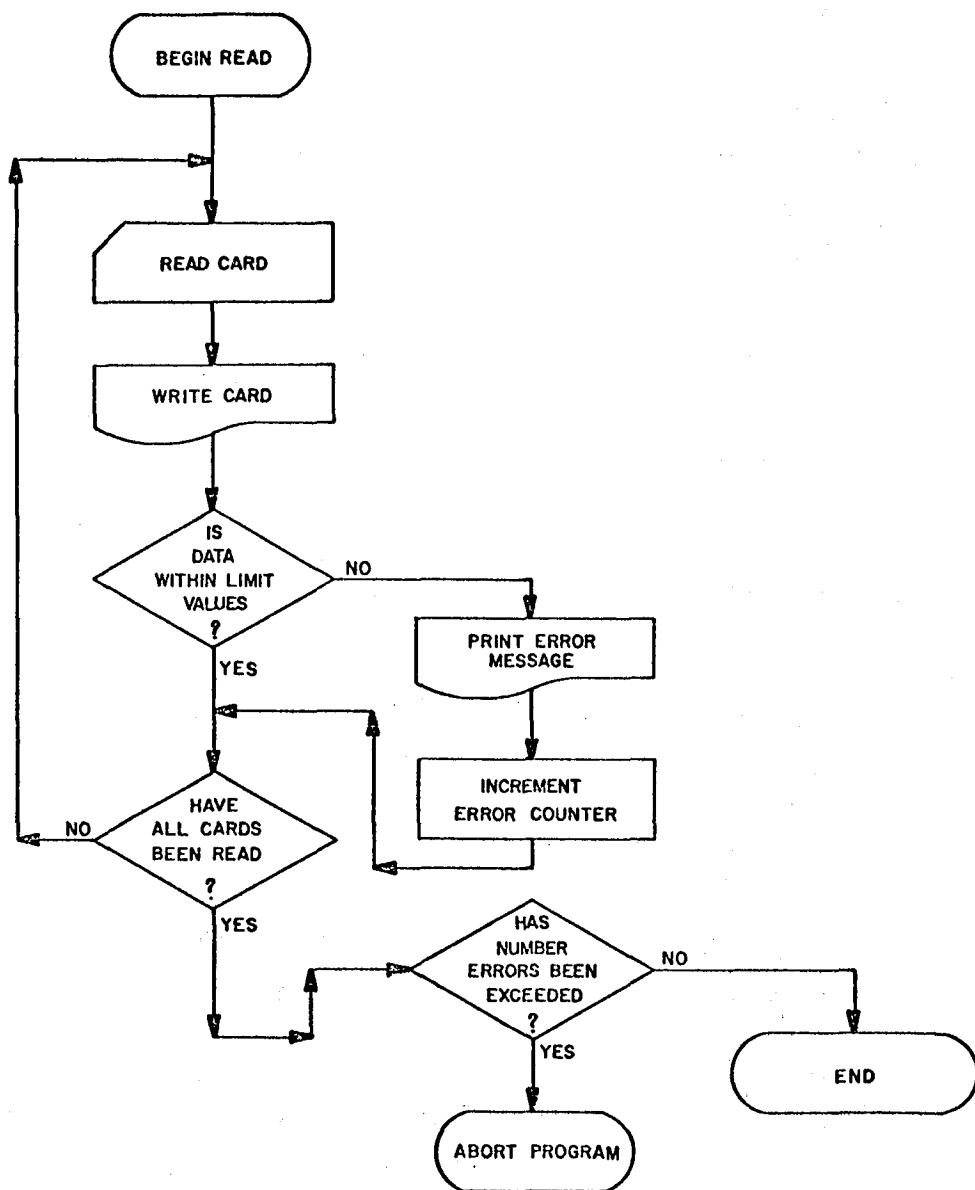


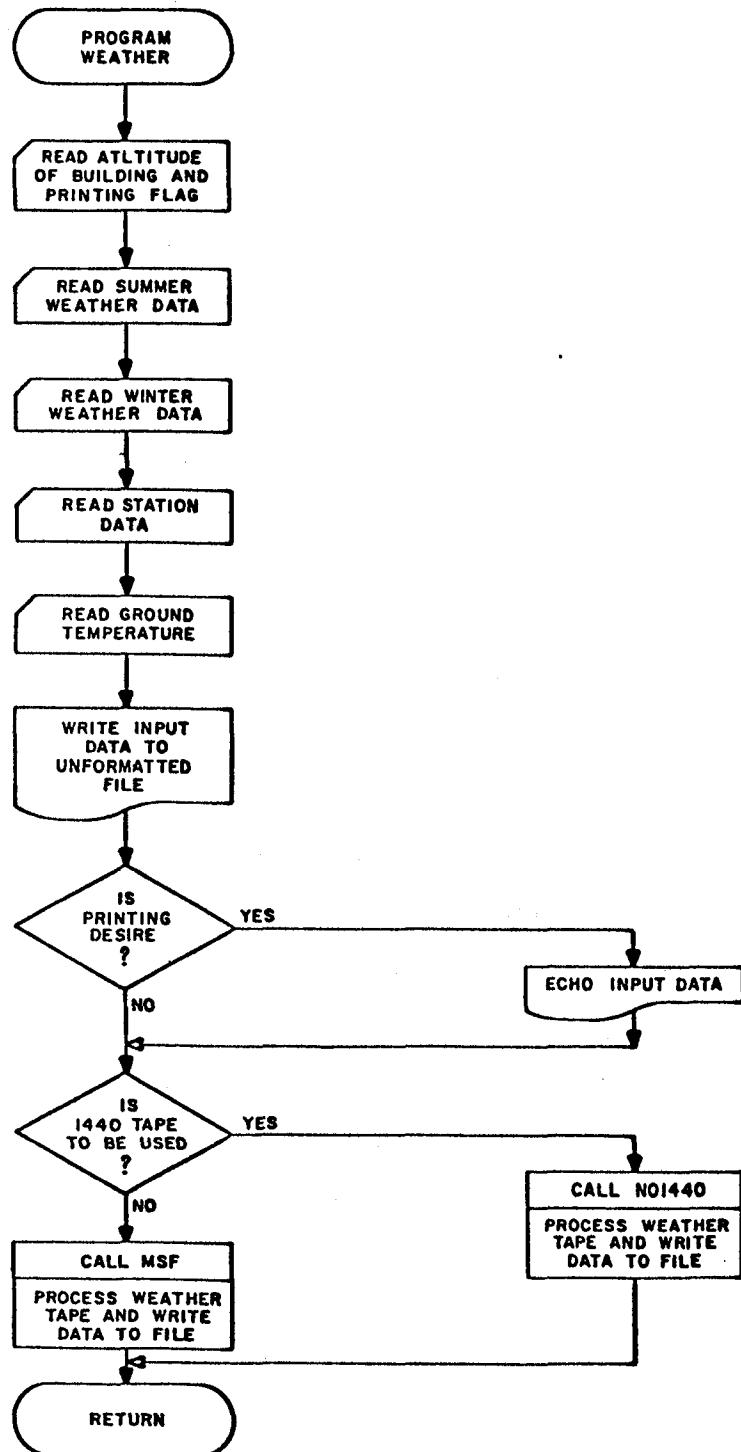










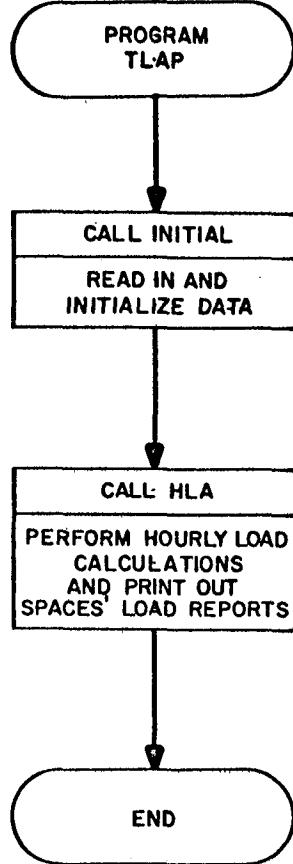


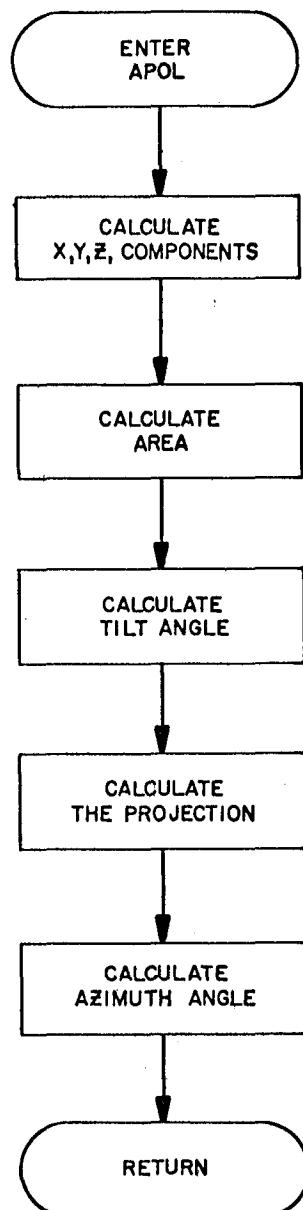


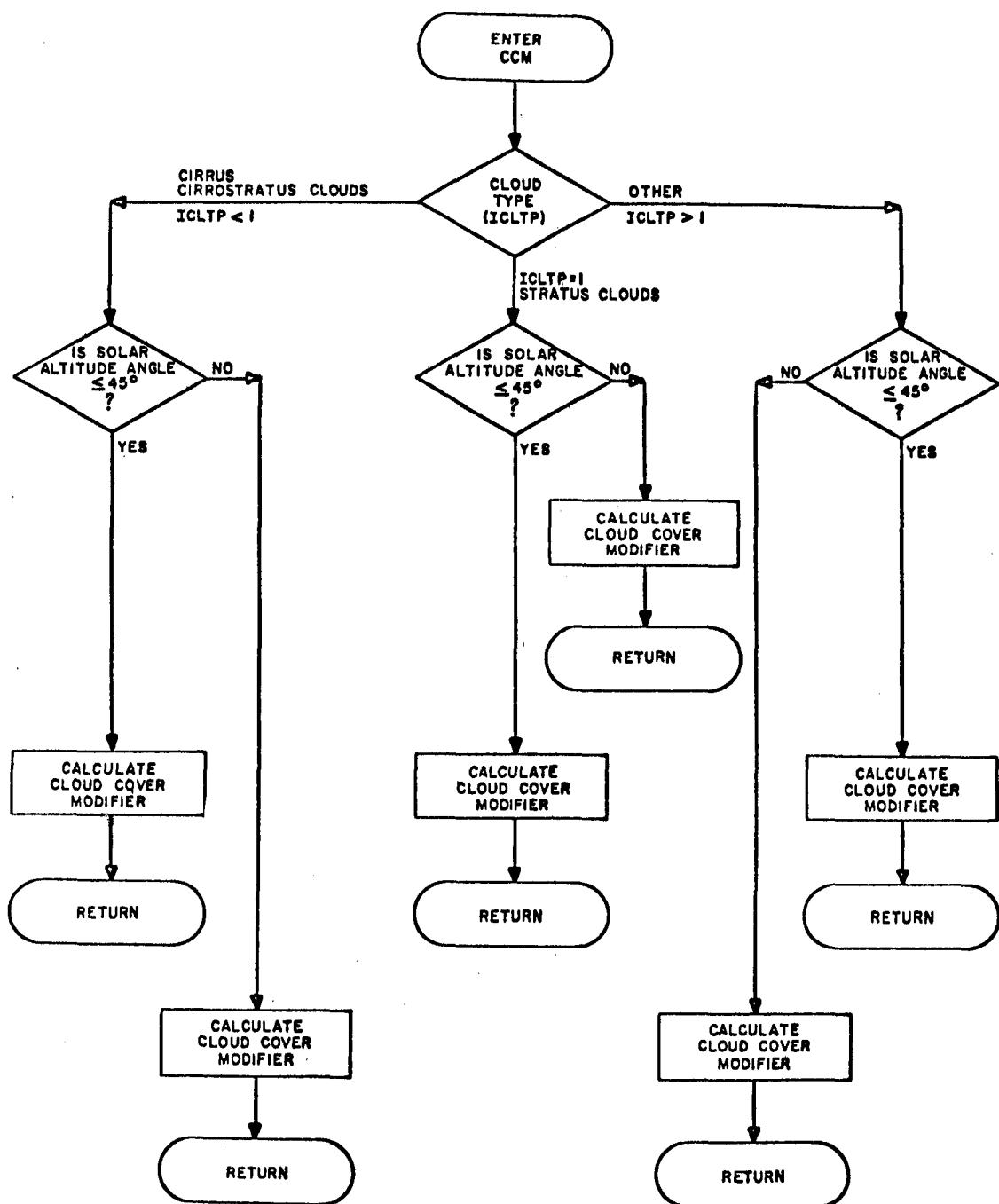
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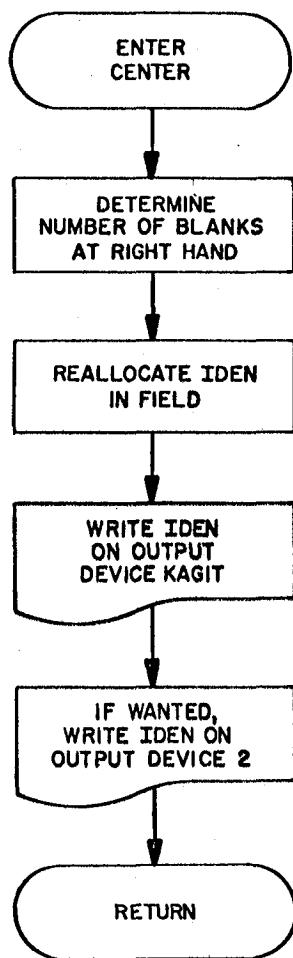


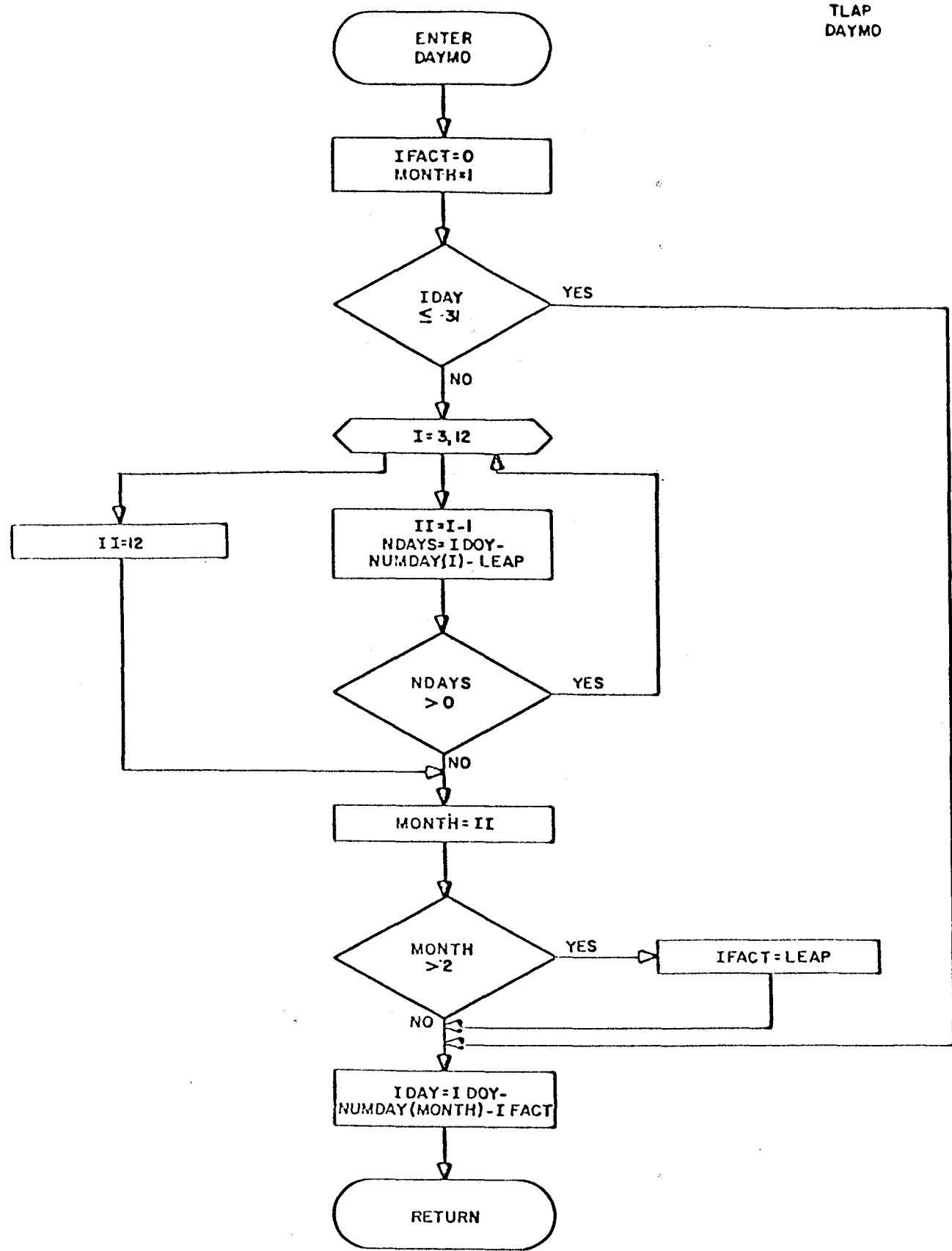
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MAIN



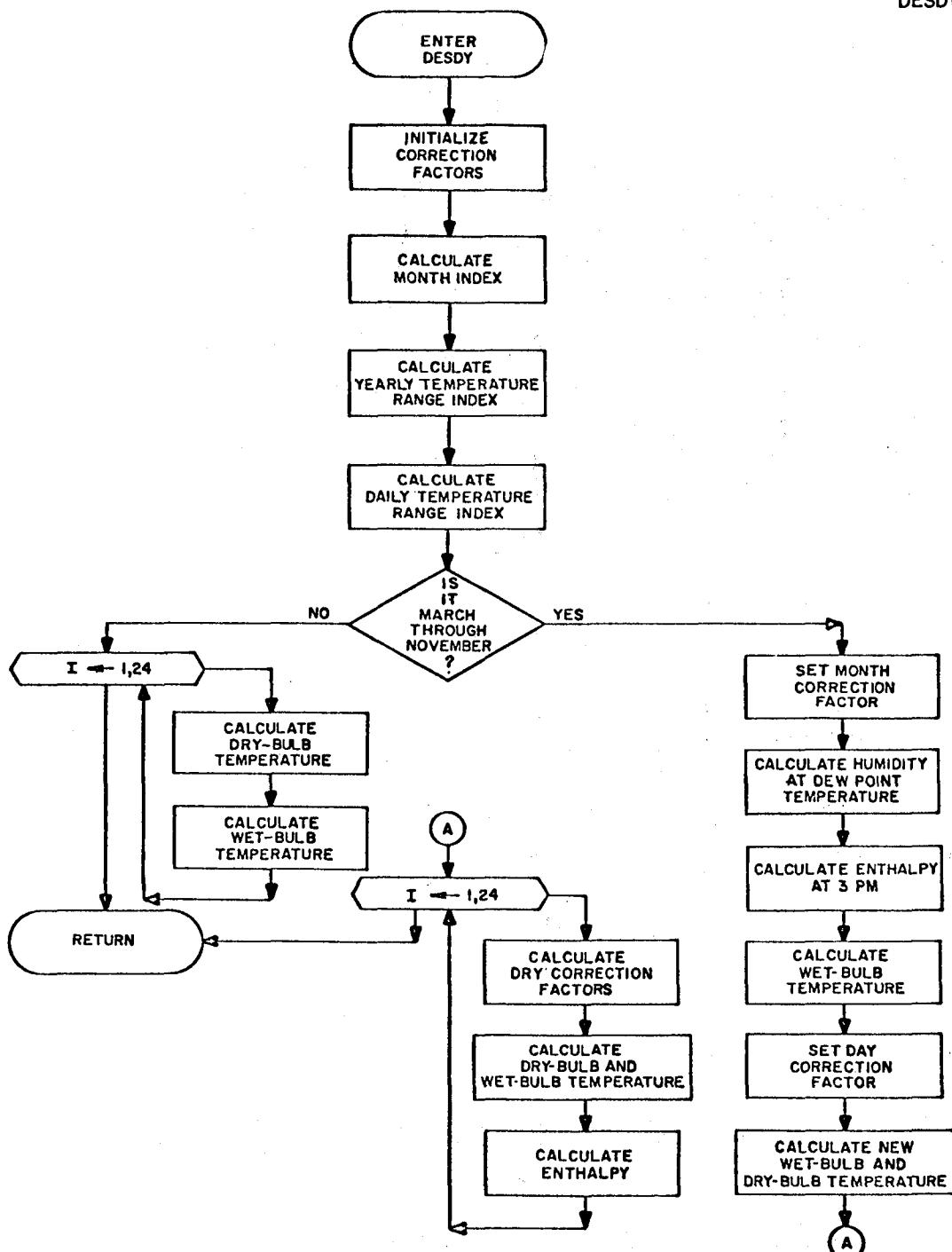


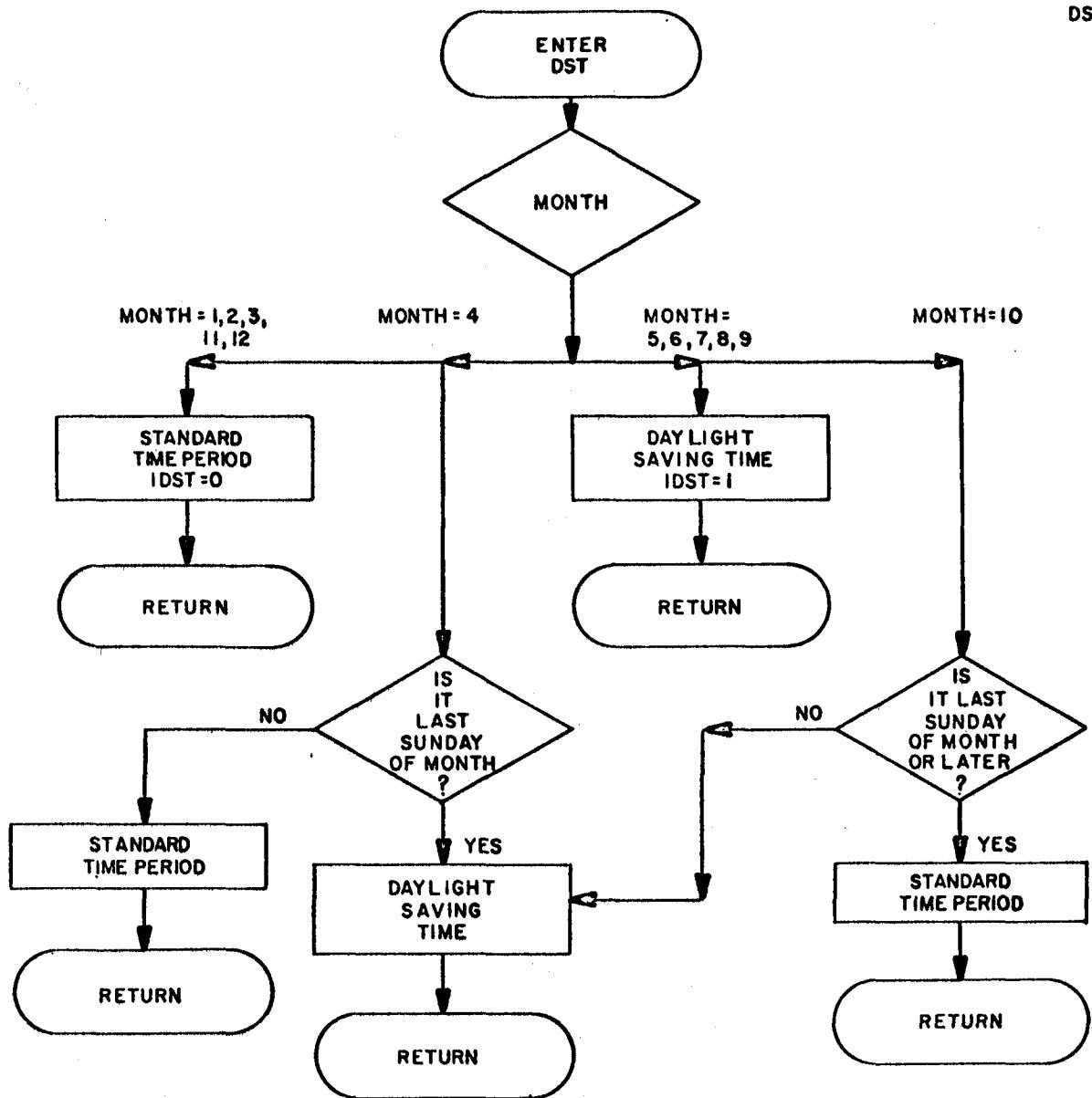




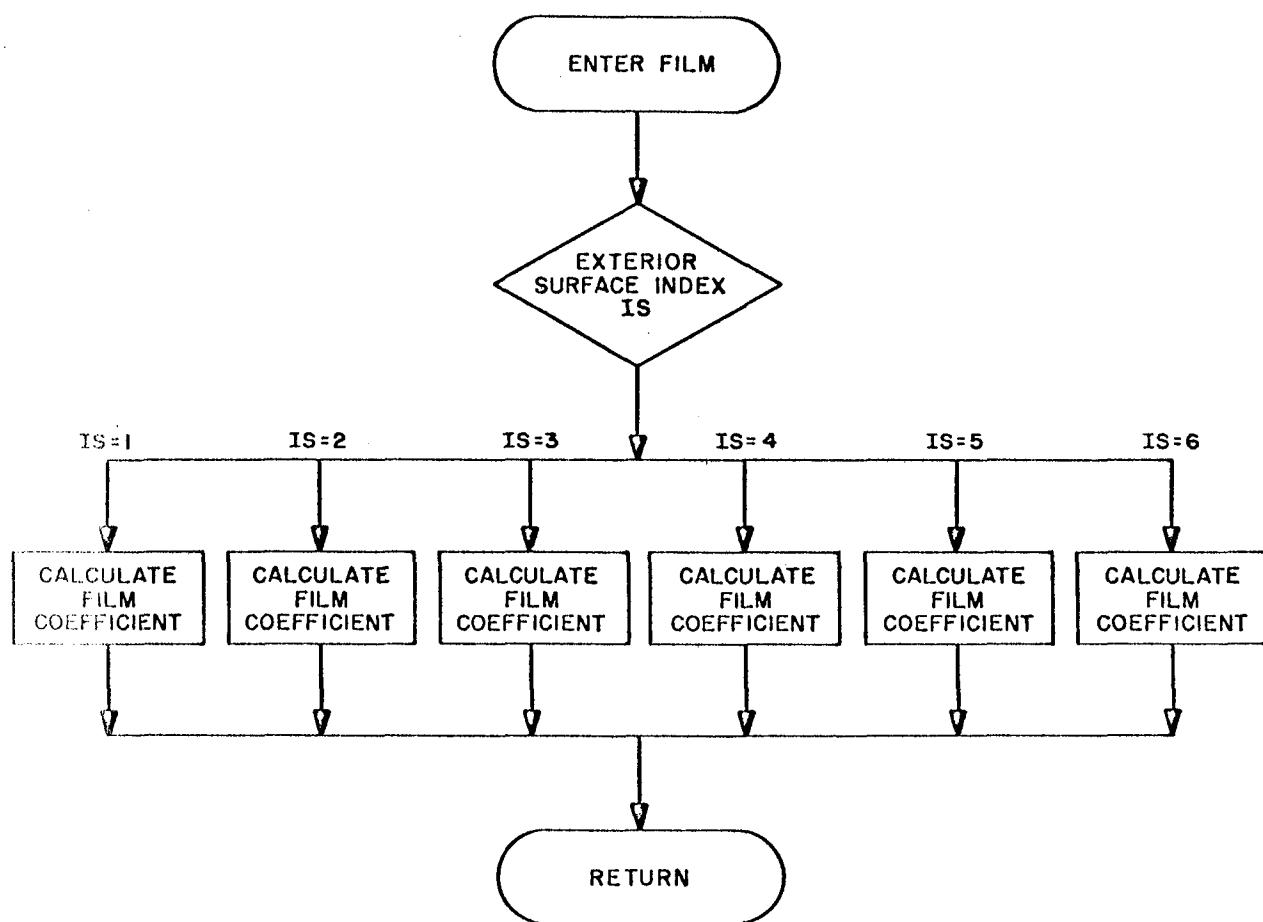


TLAP  
DESDY

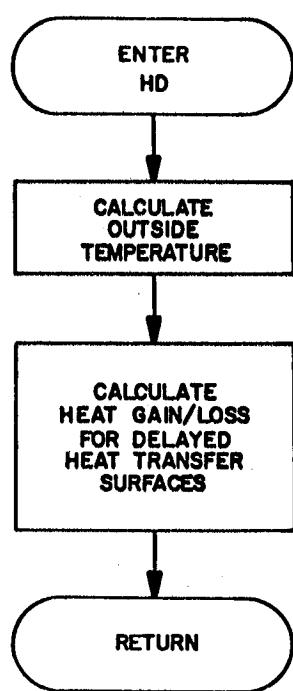


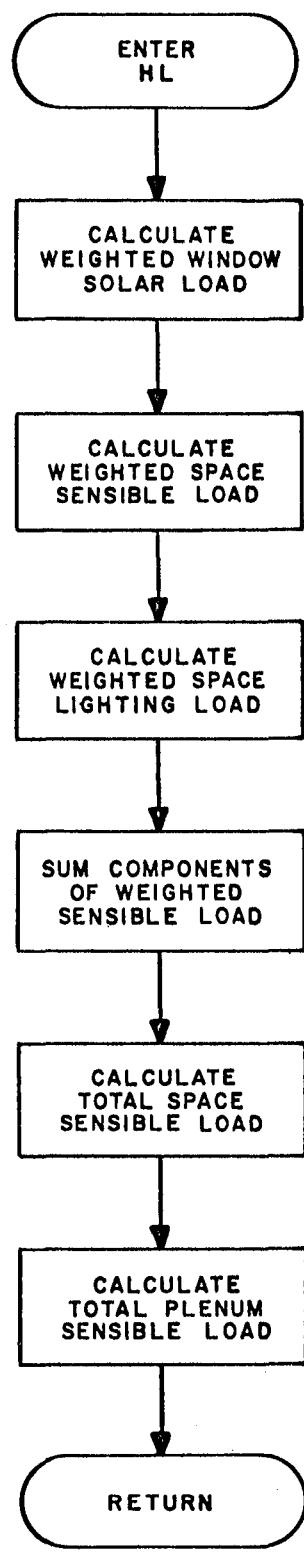


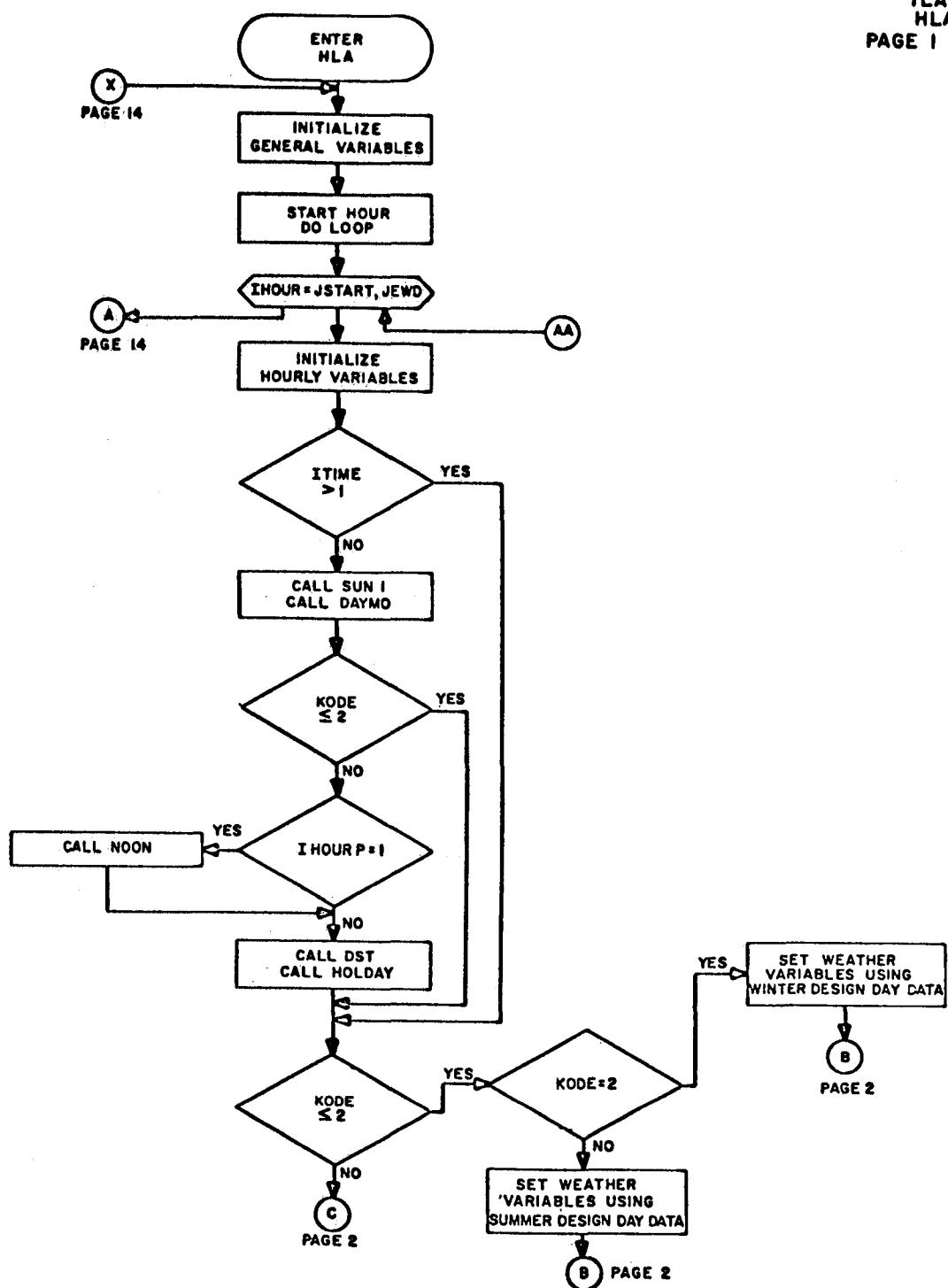
TLAP  
FILM

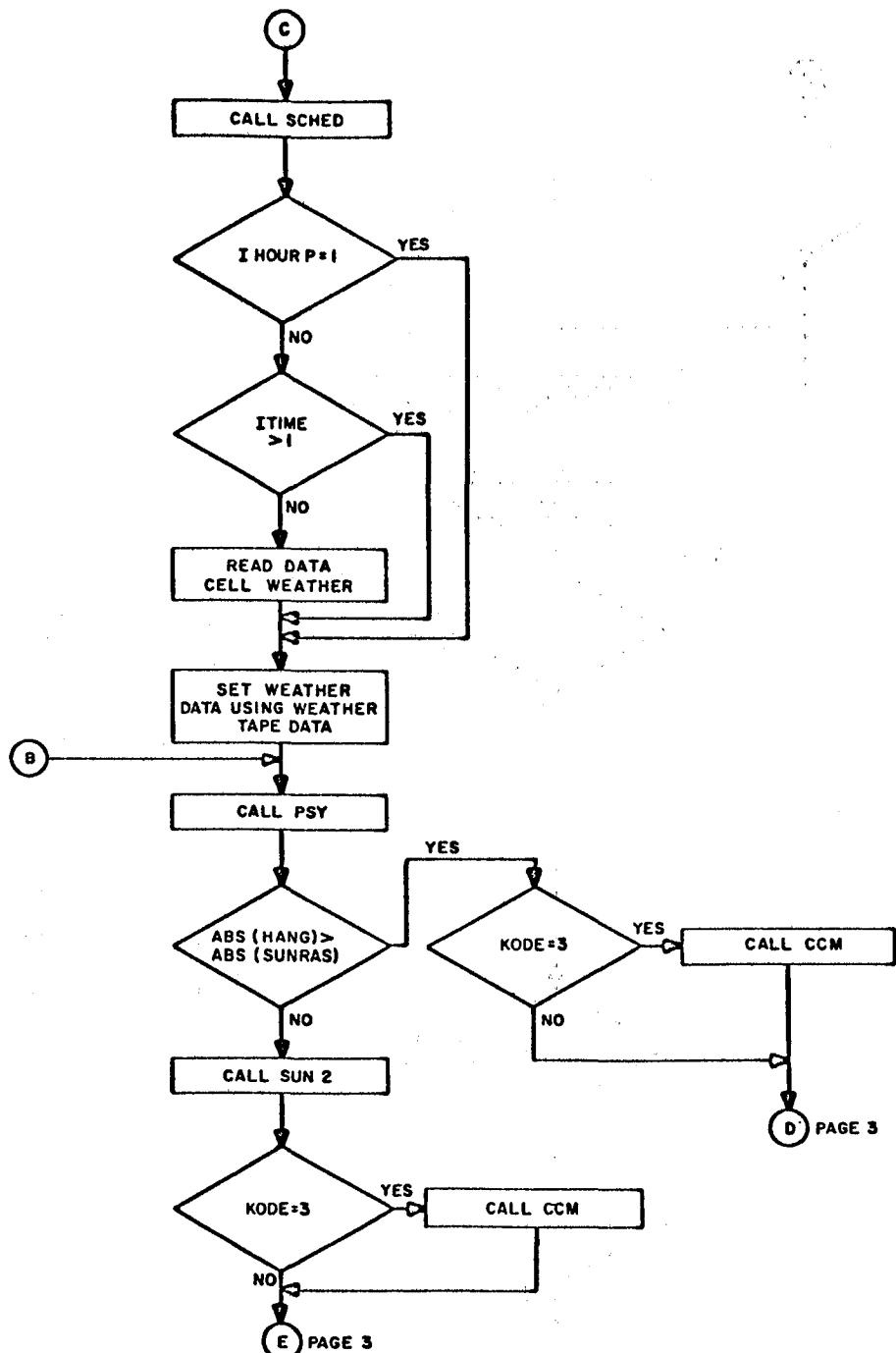


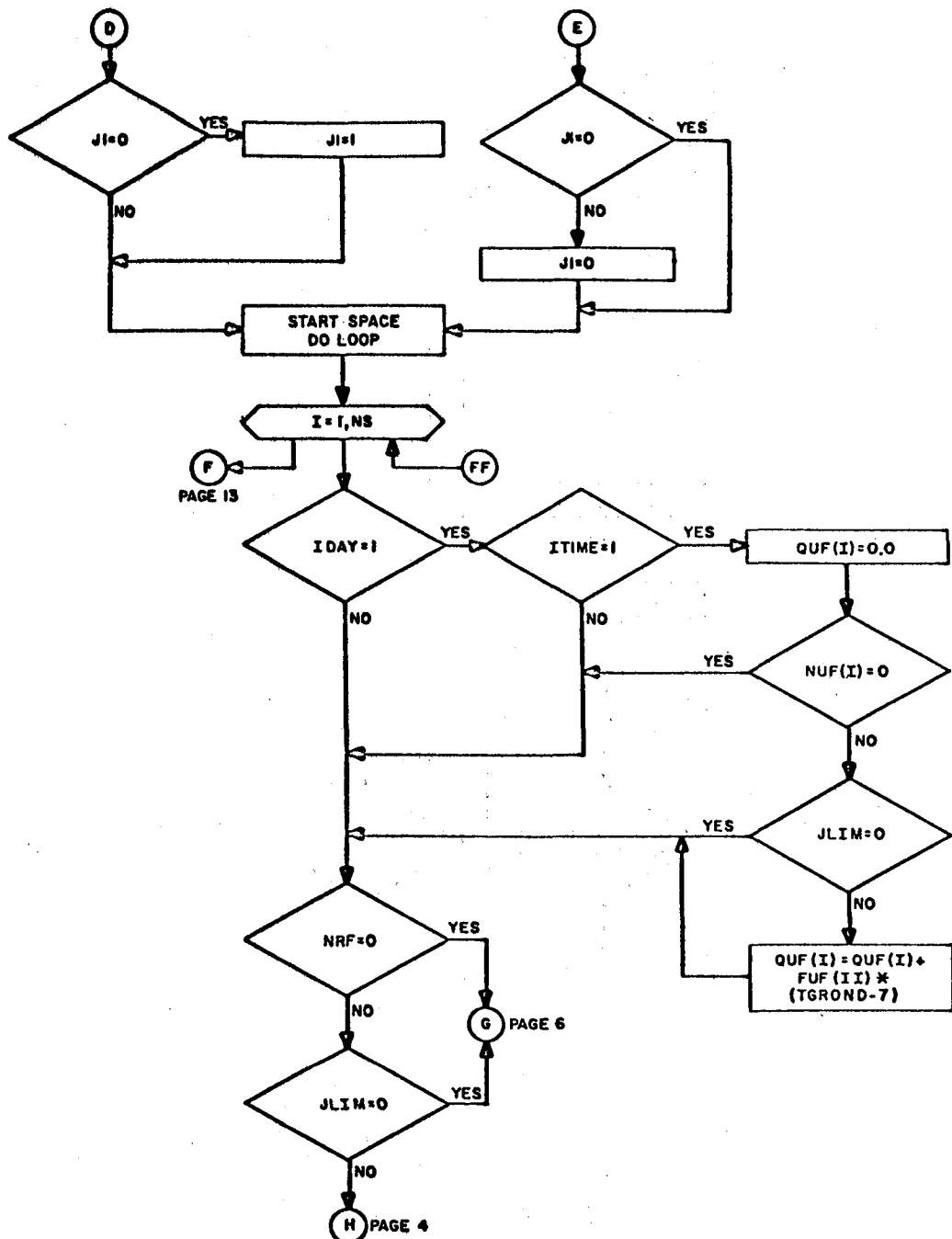
TLAP  
HD

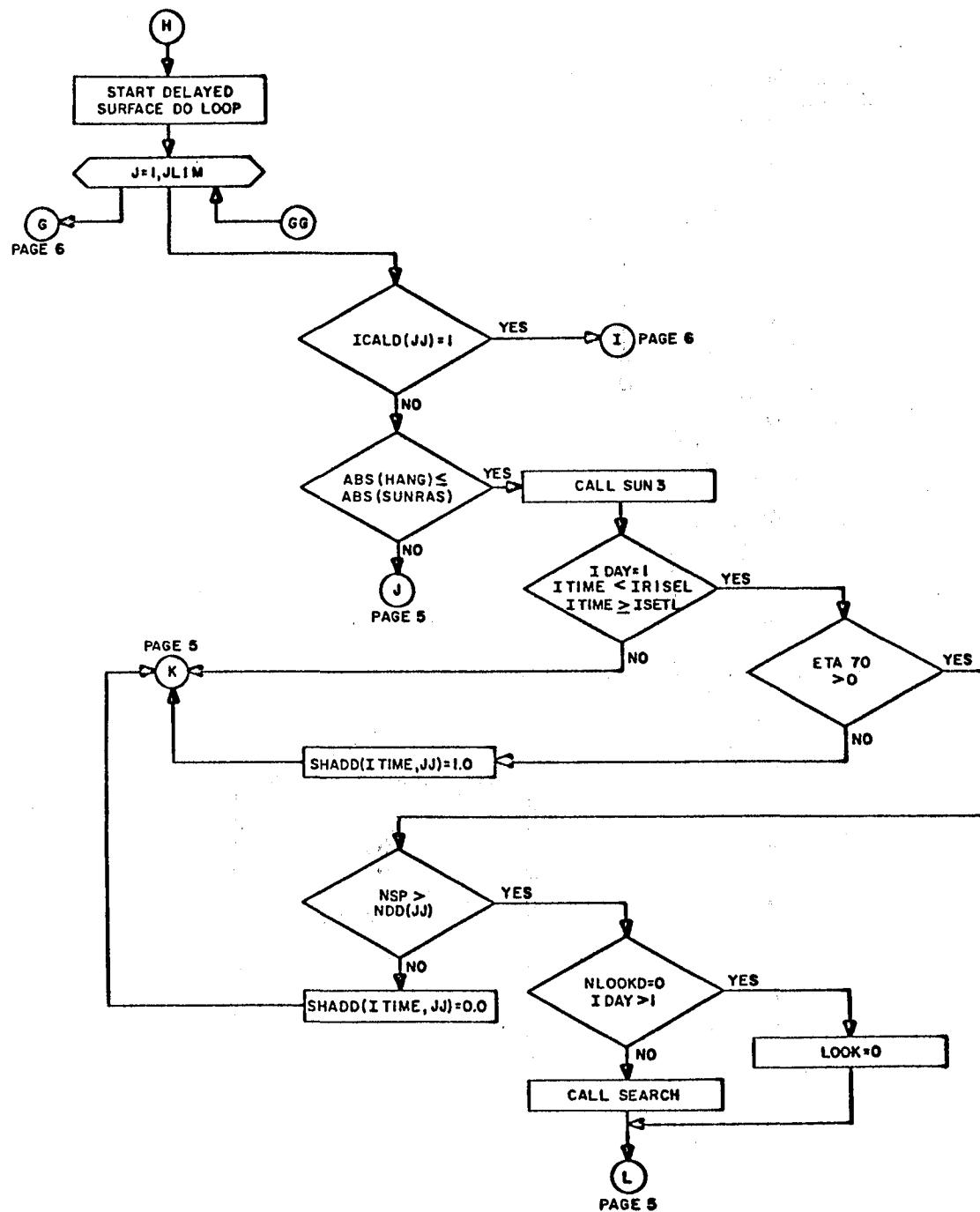


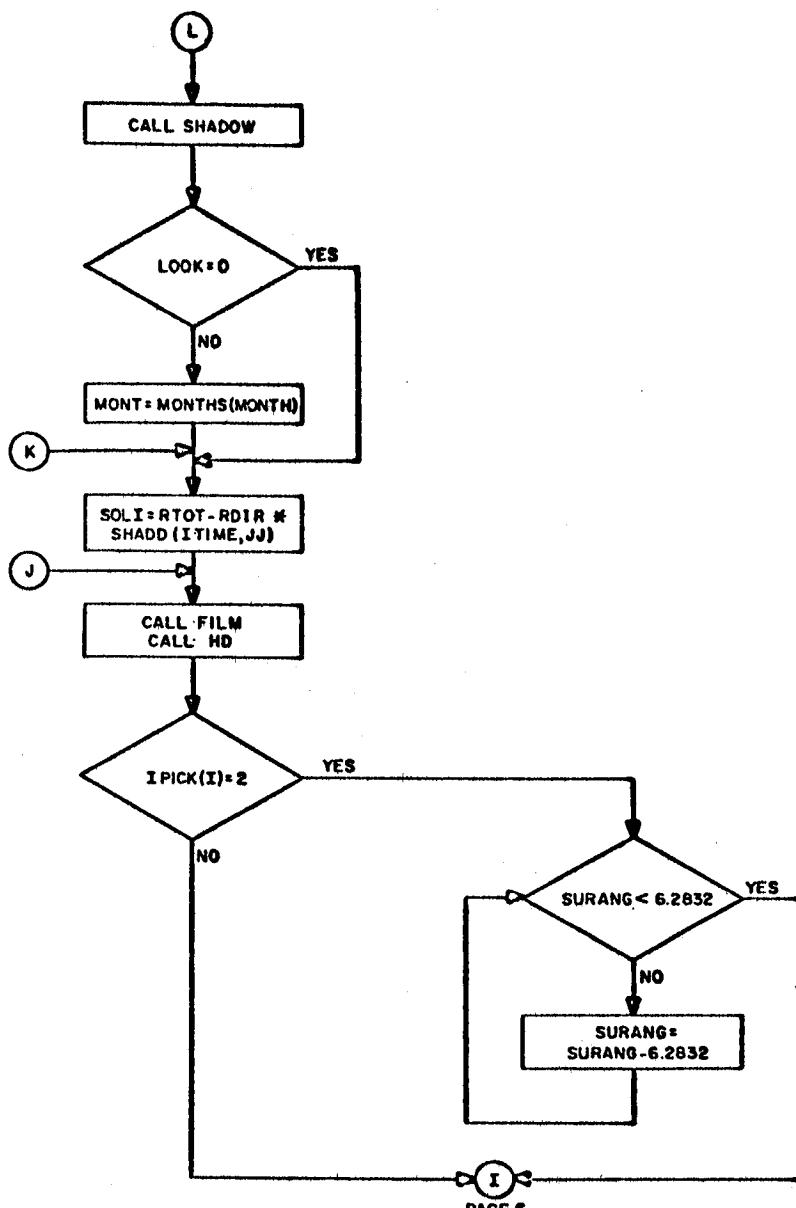


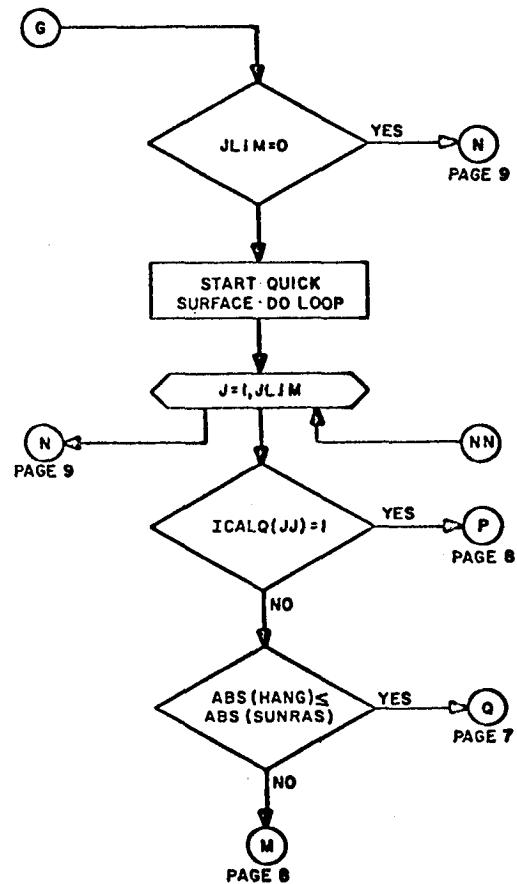
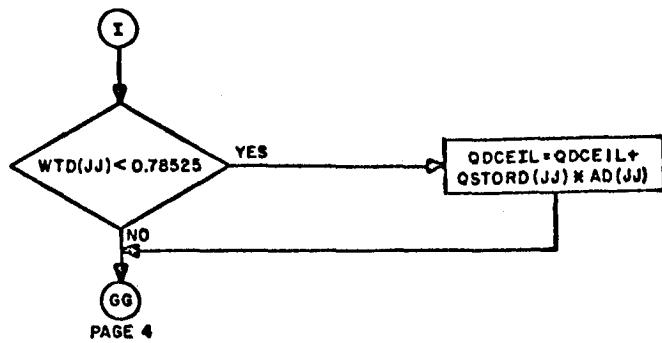


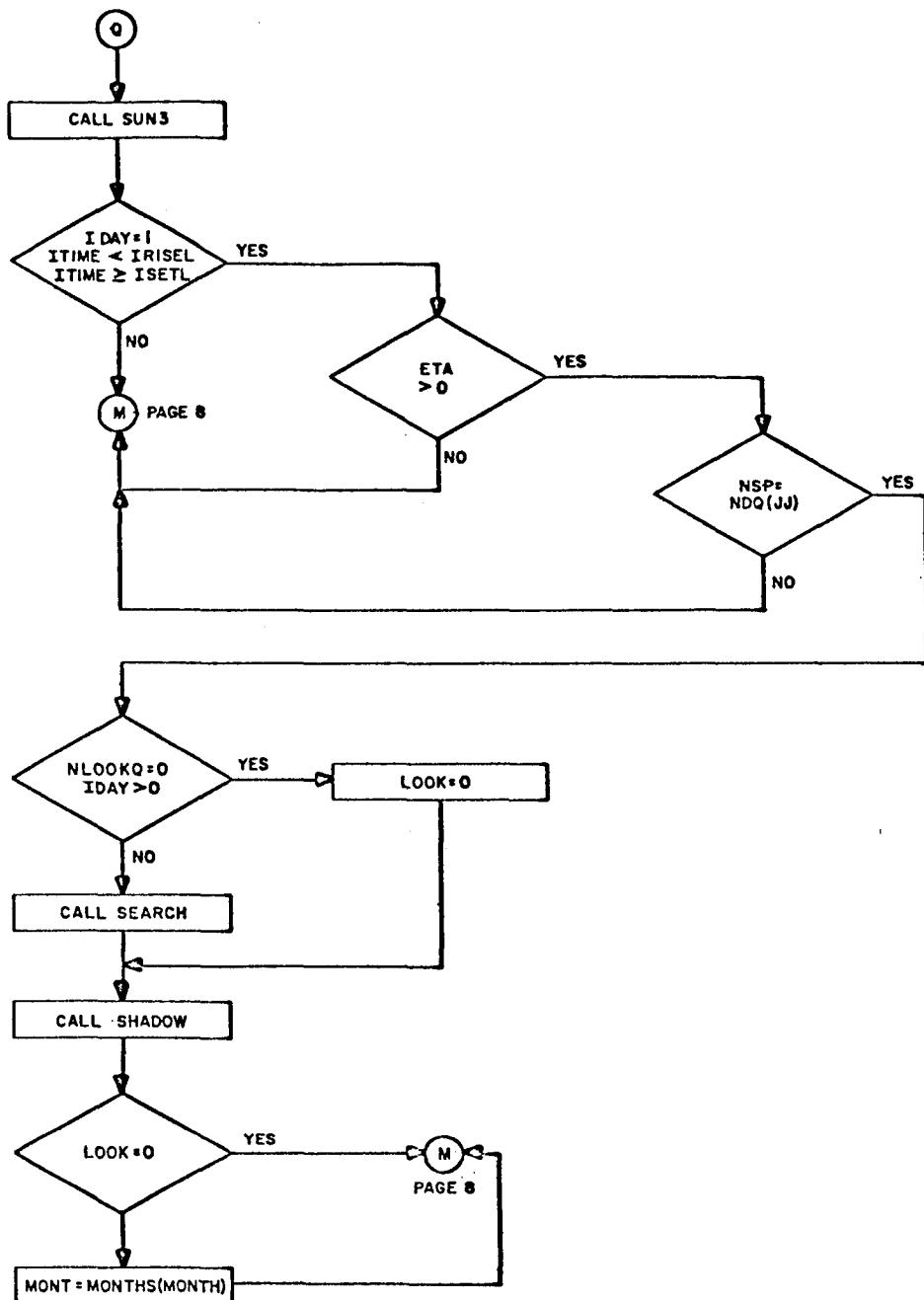


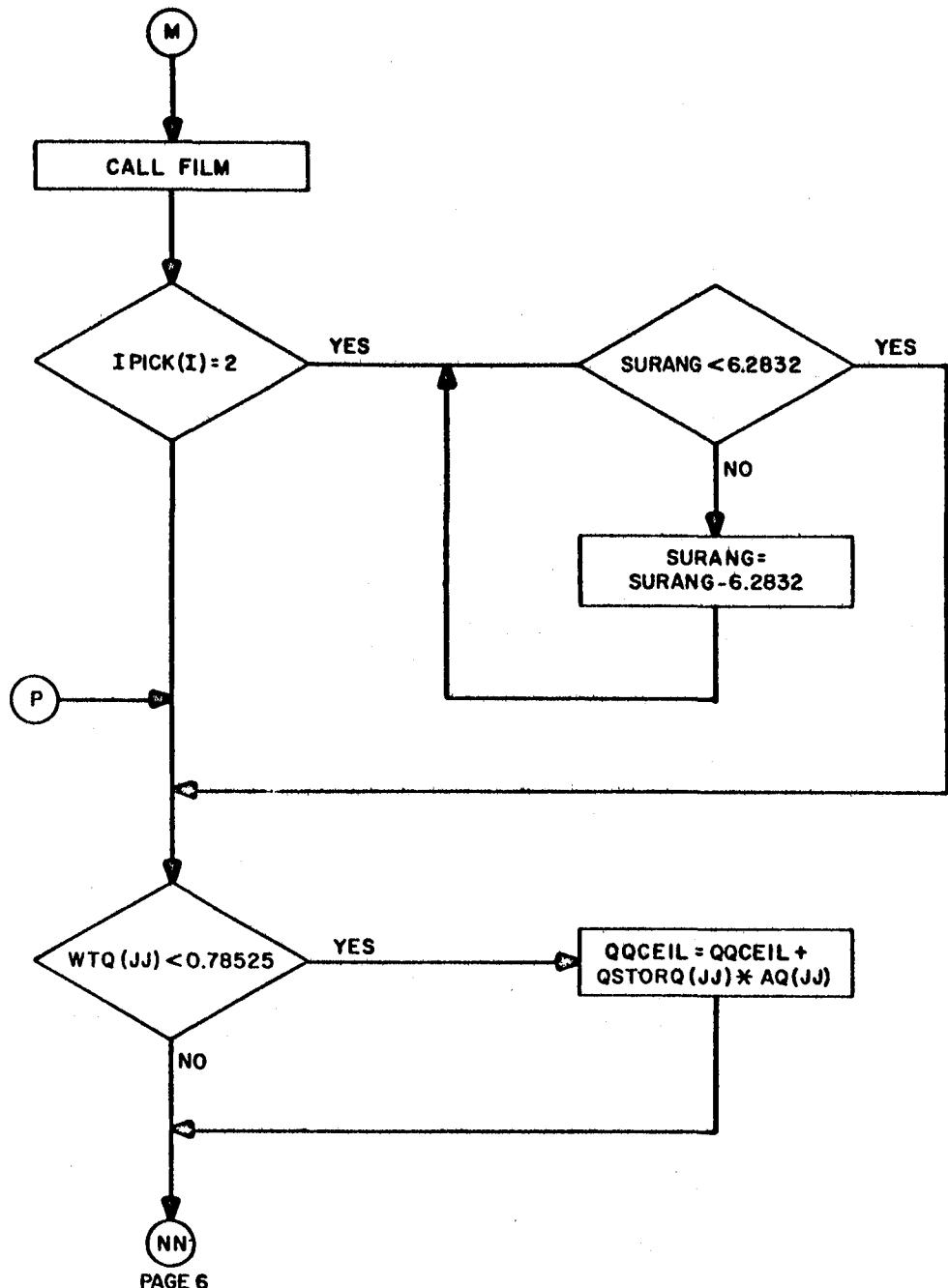


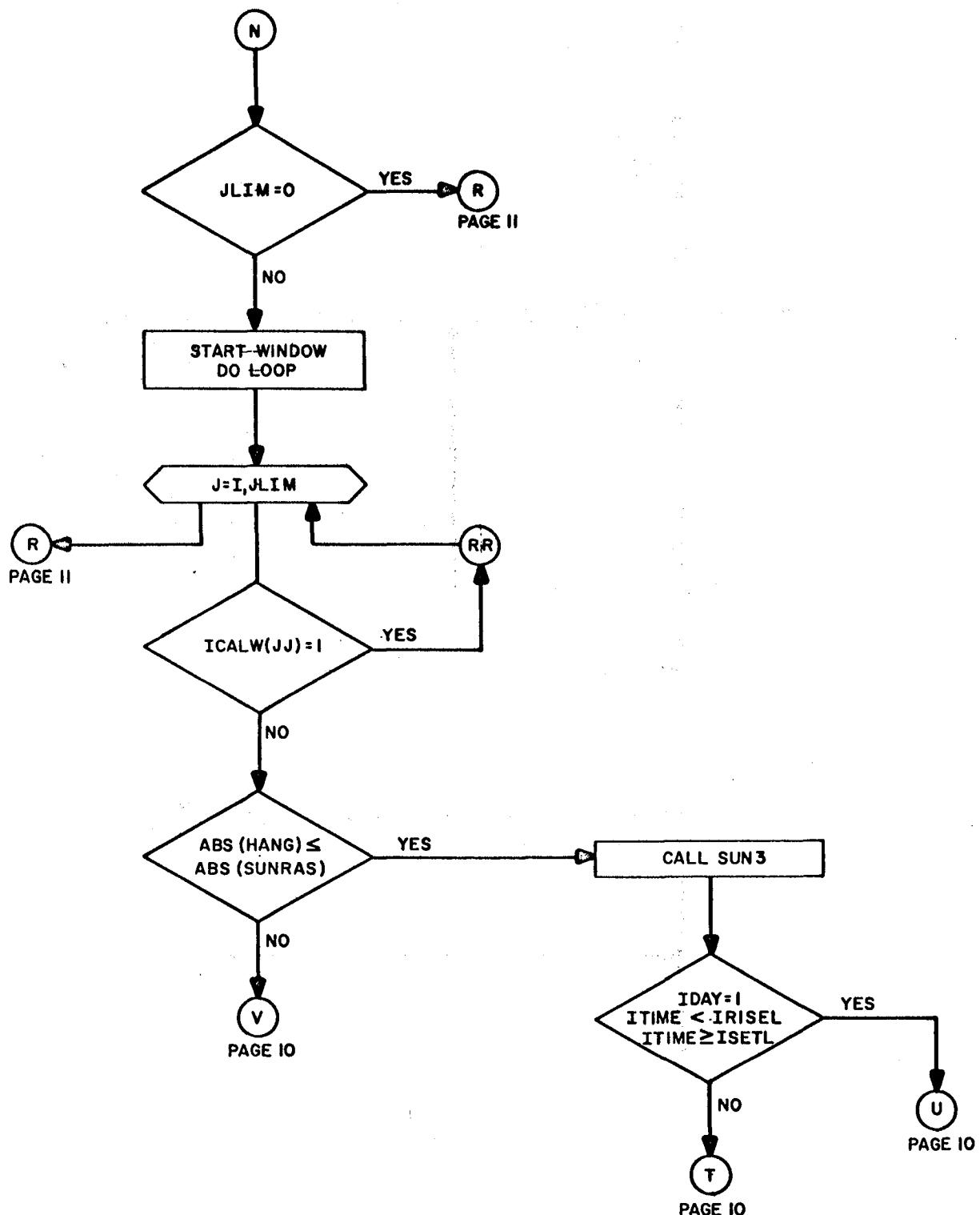


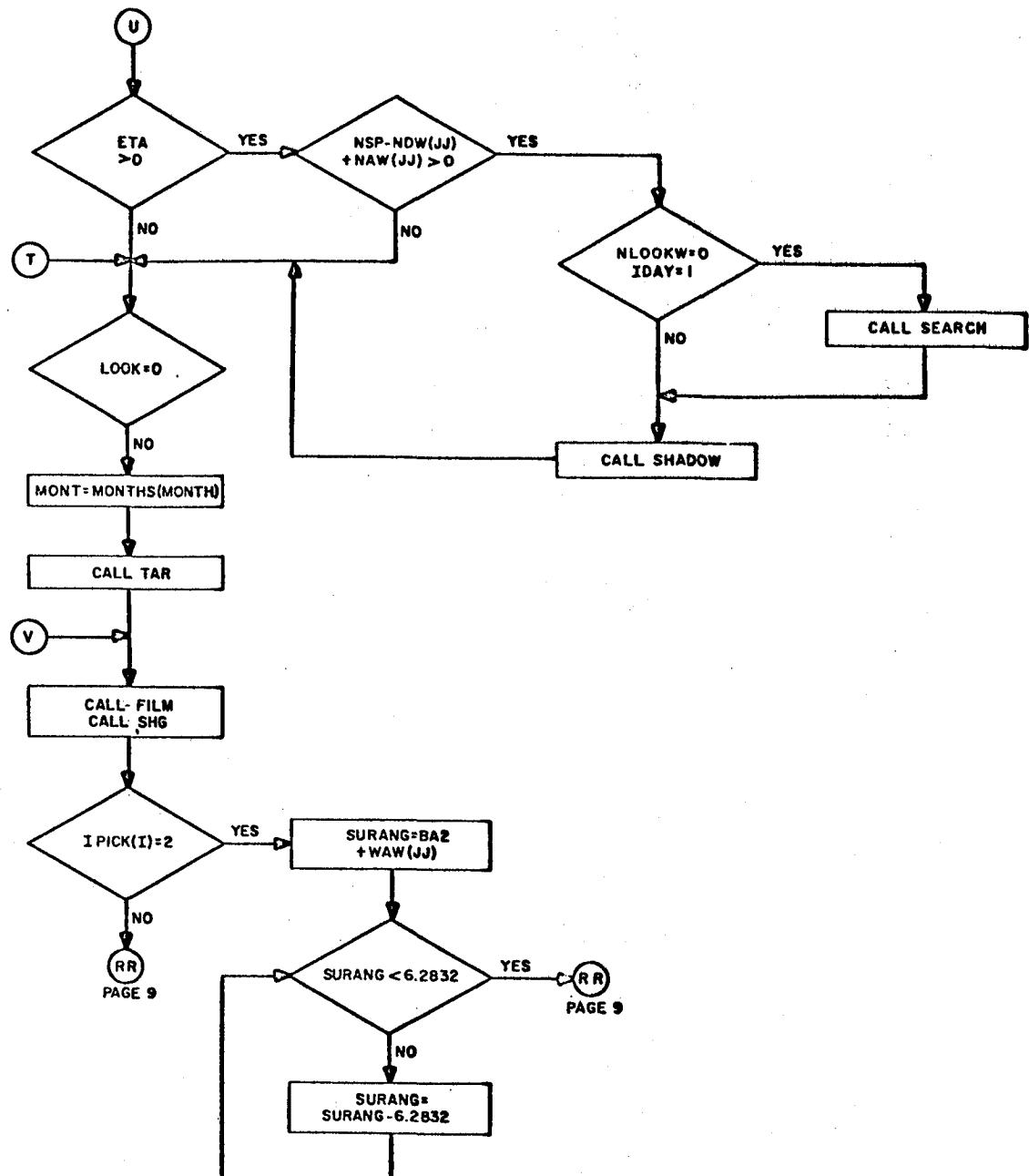


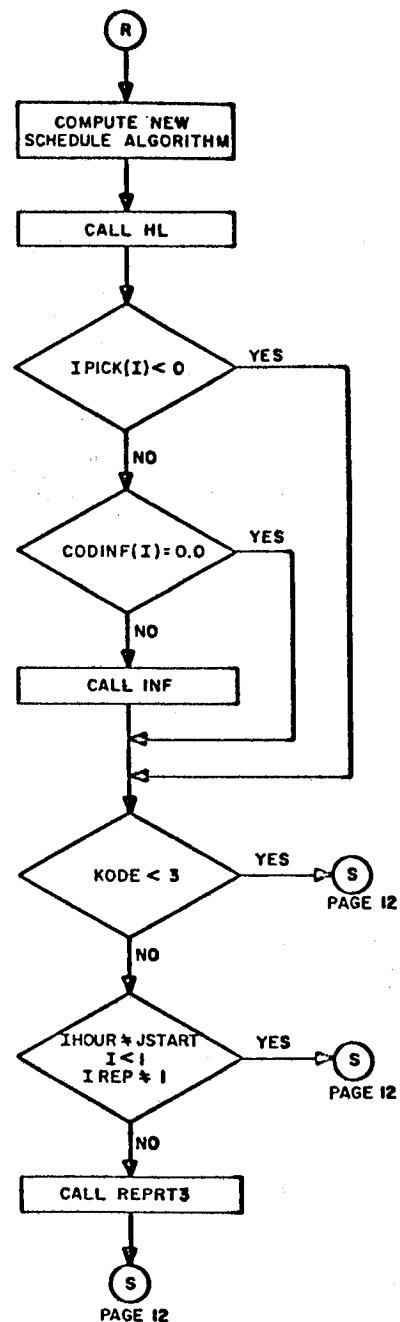


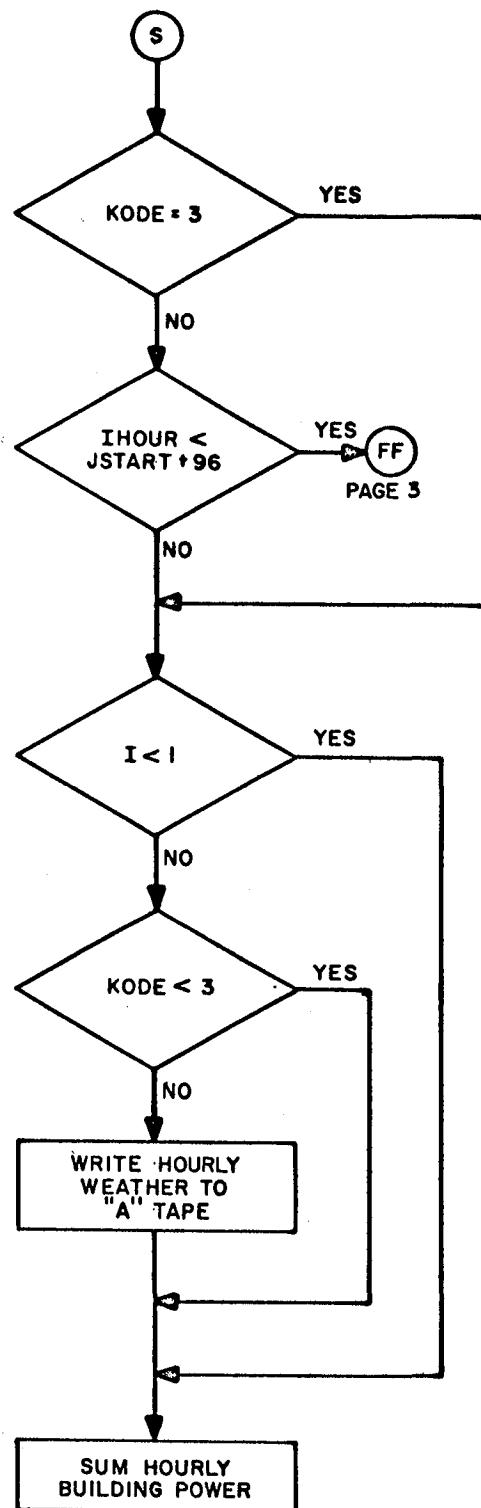


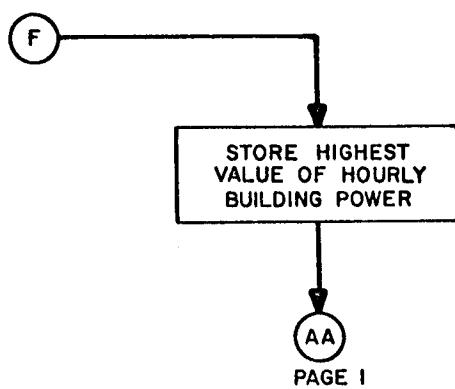
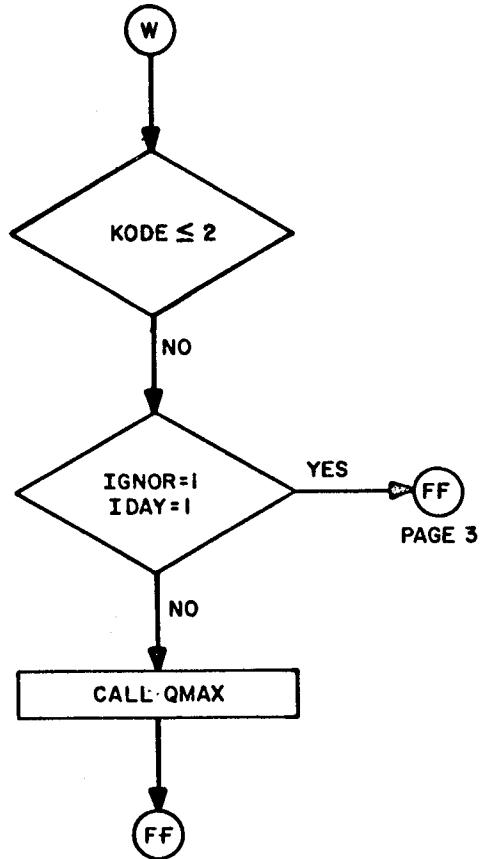


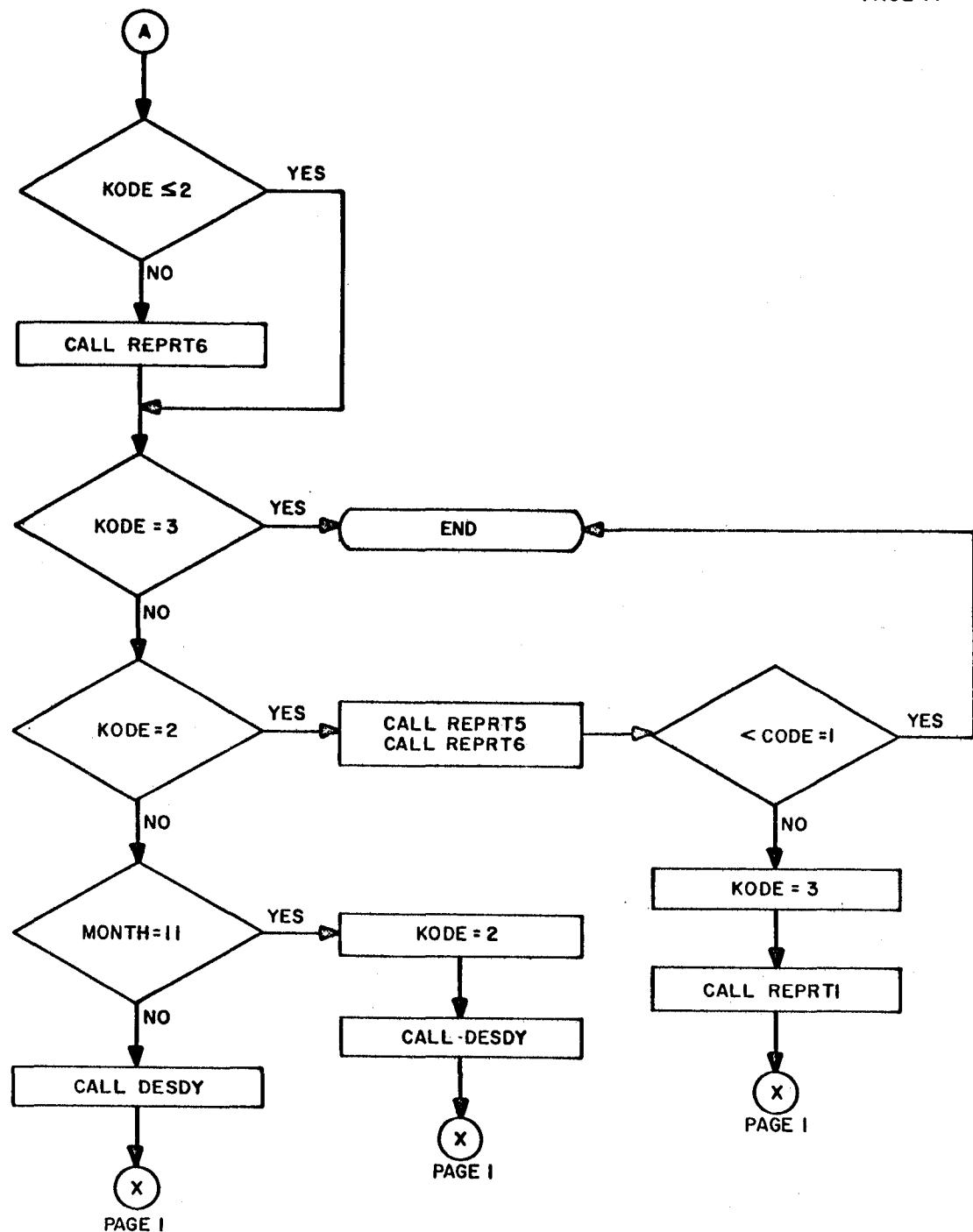


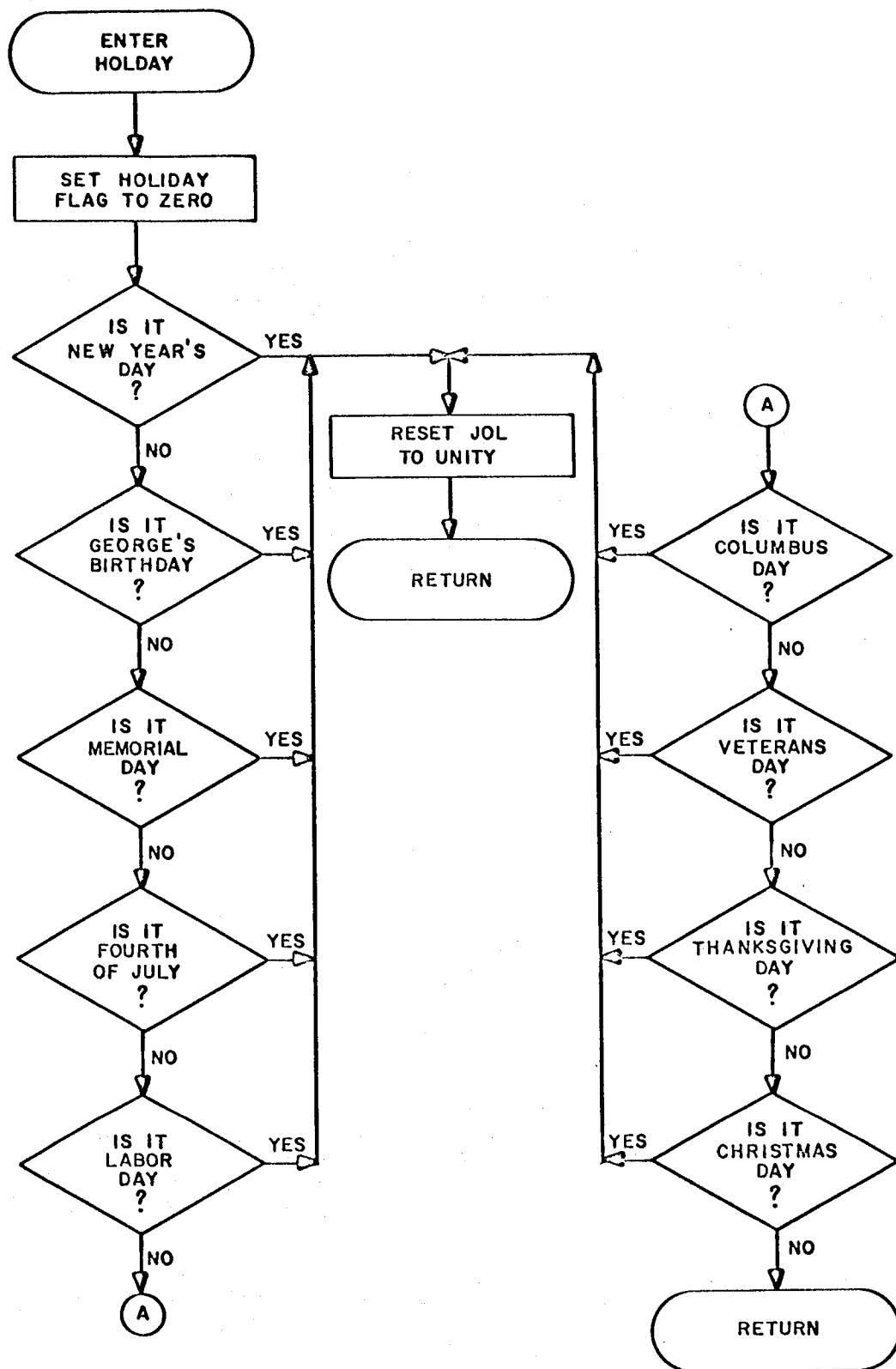


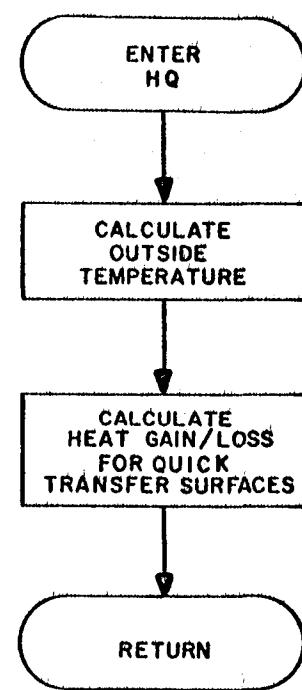


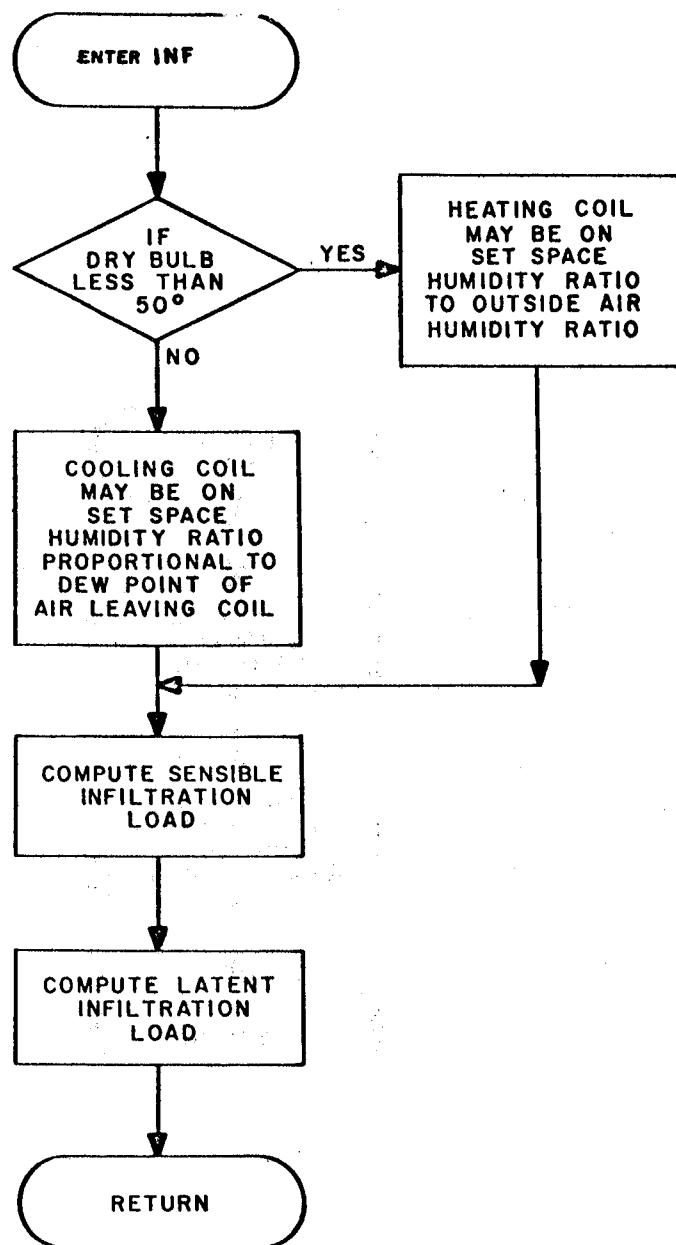


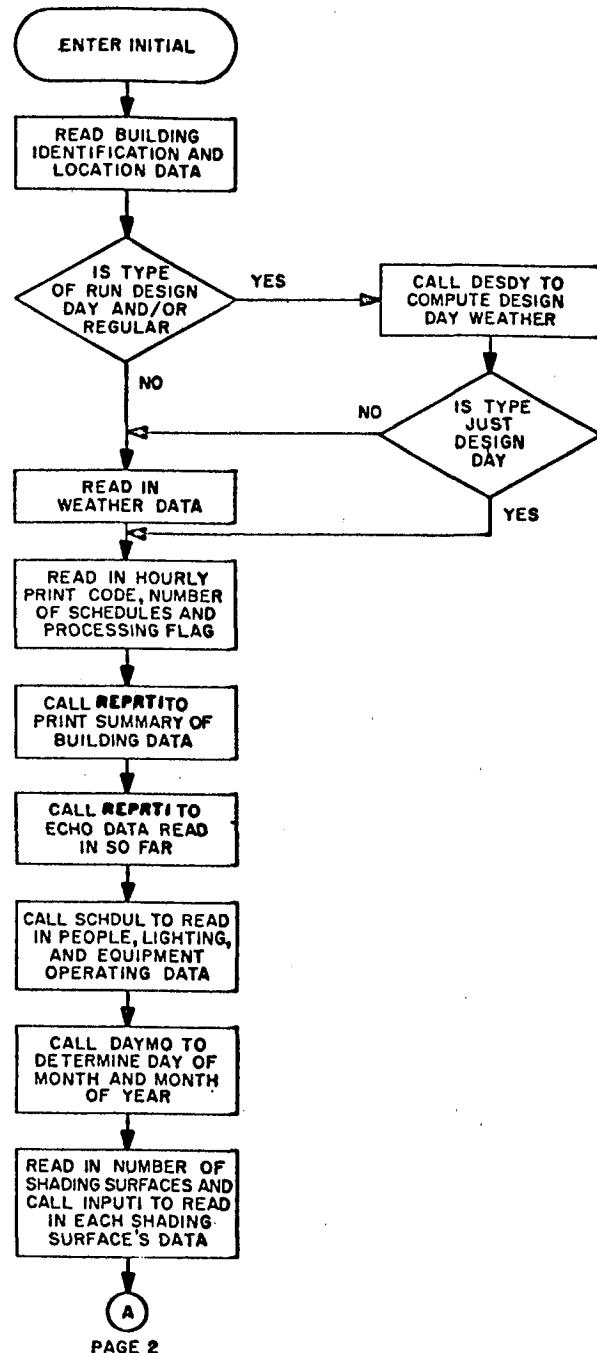


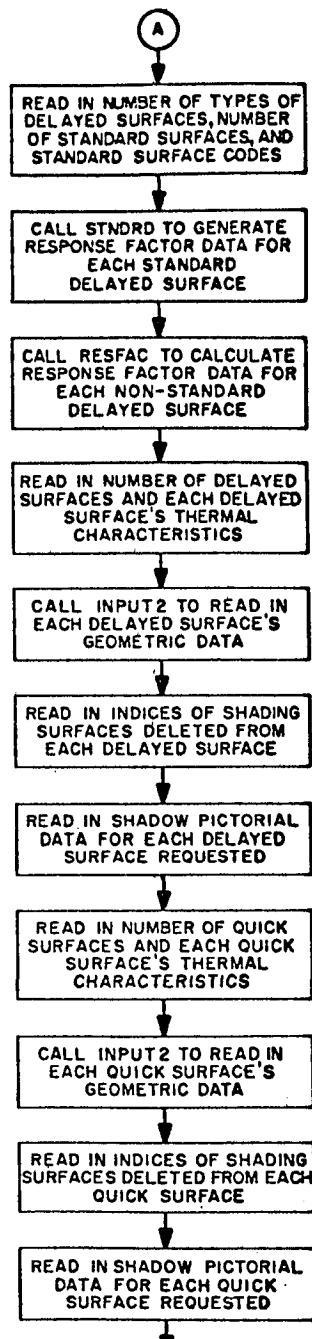


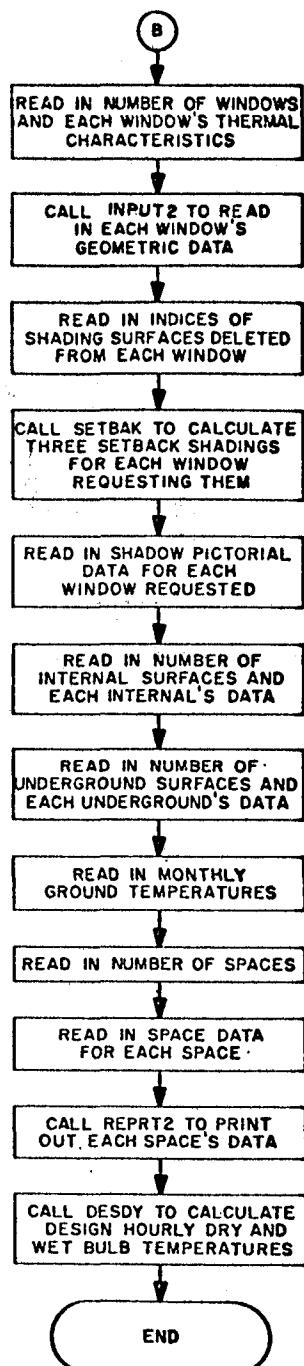




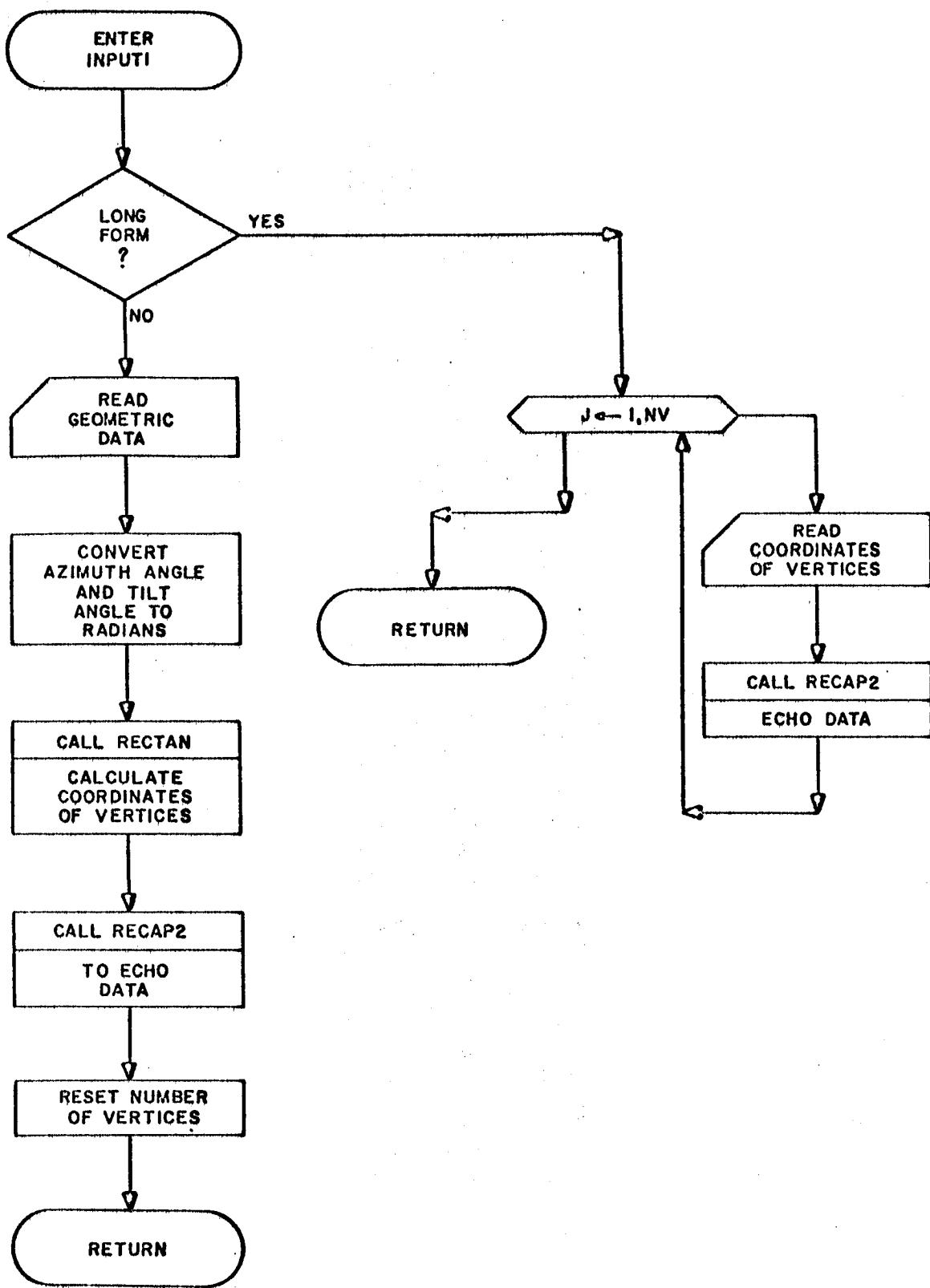




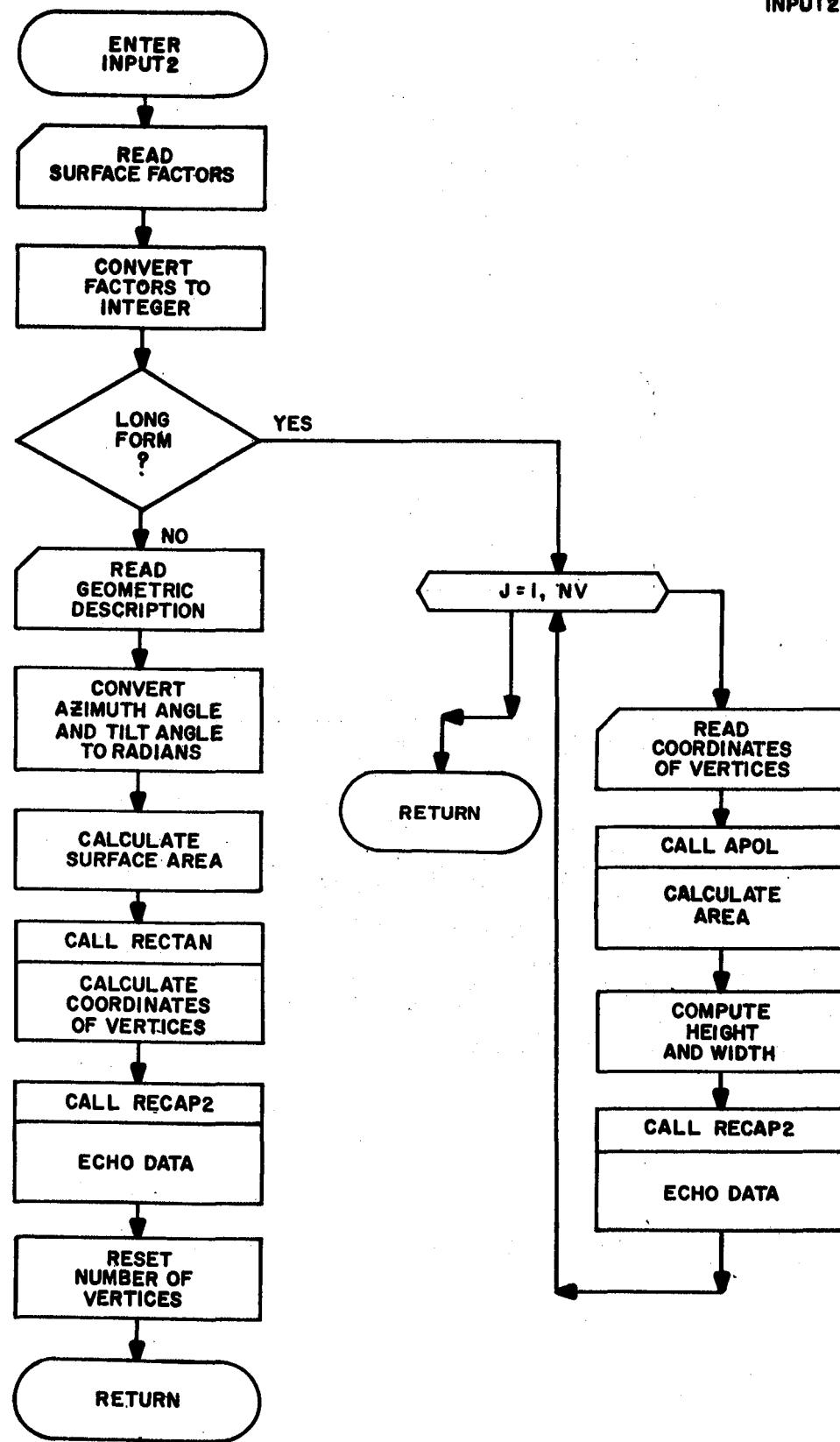


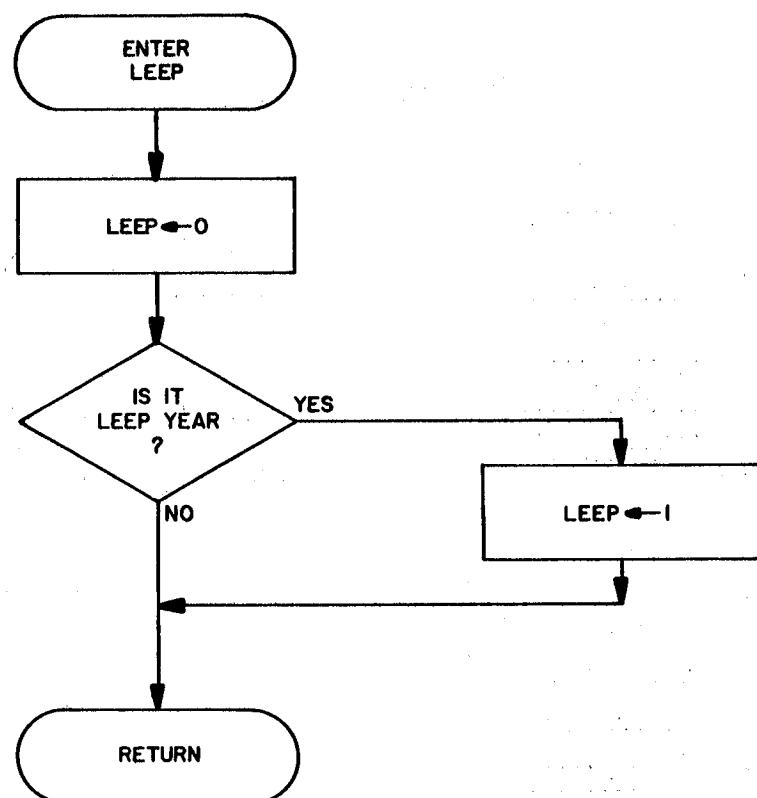


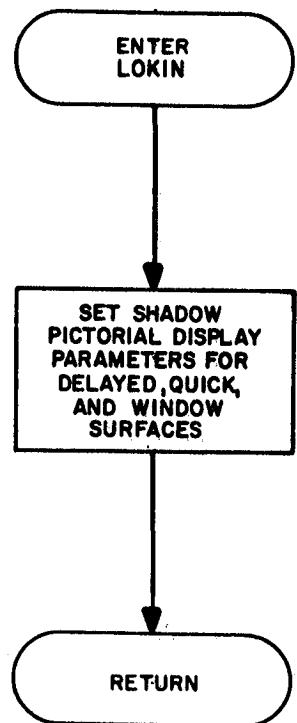
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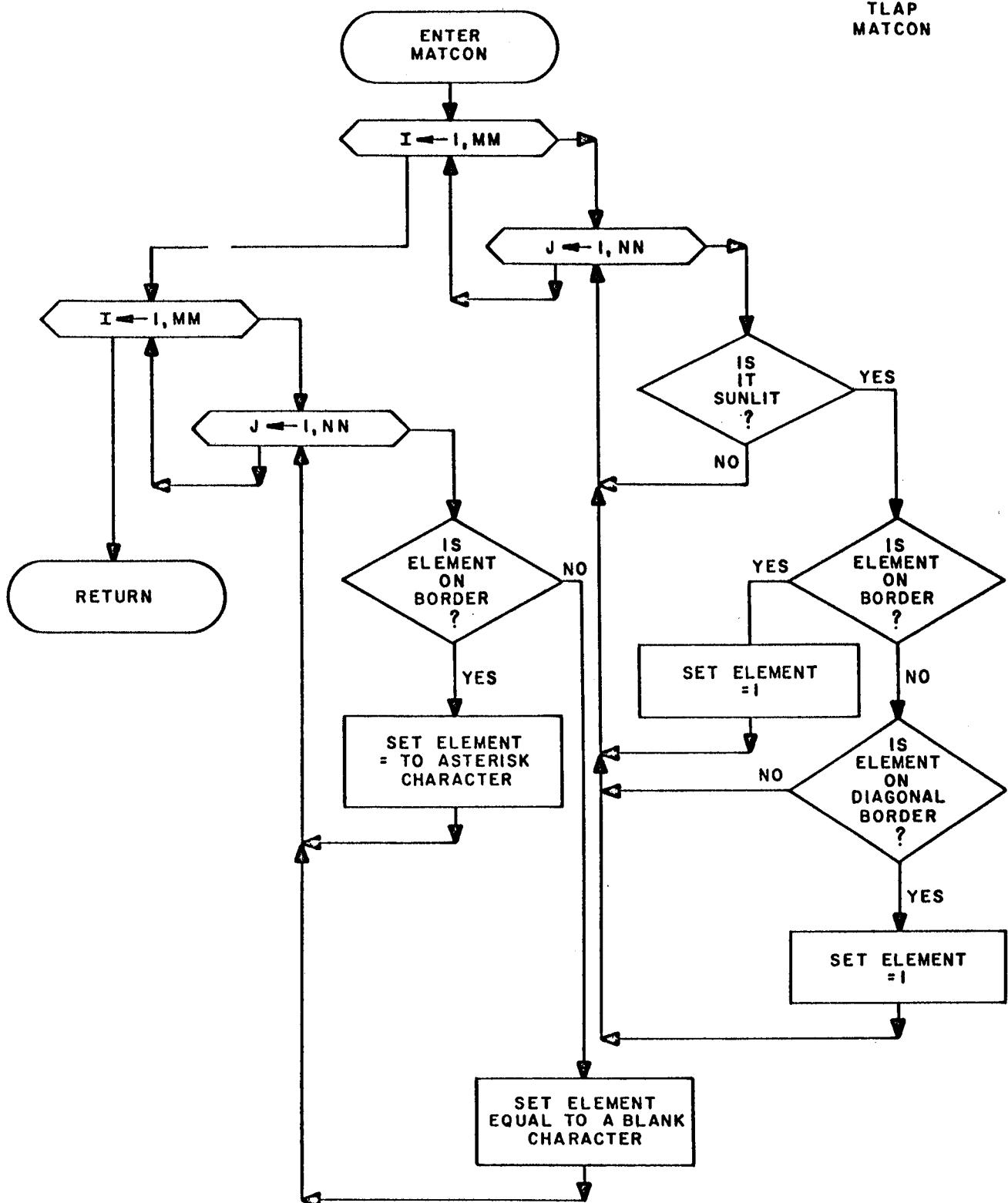
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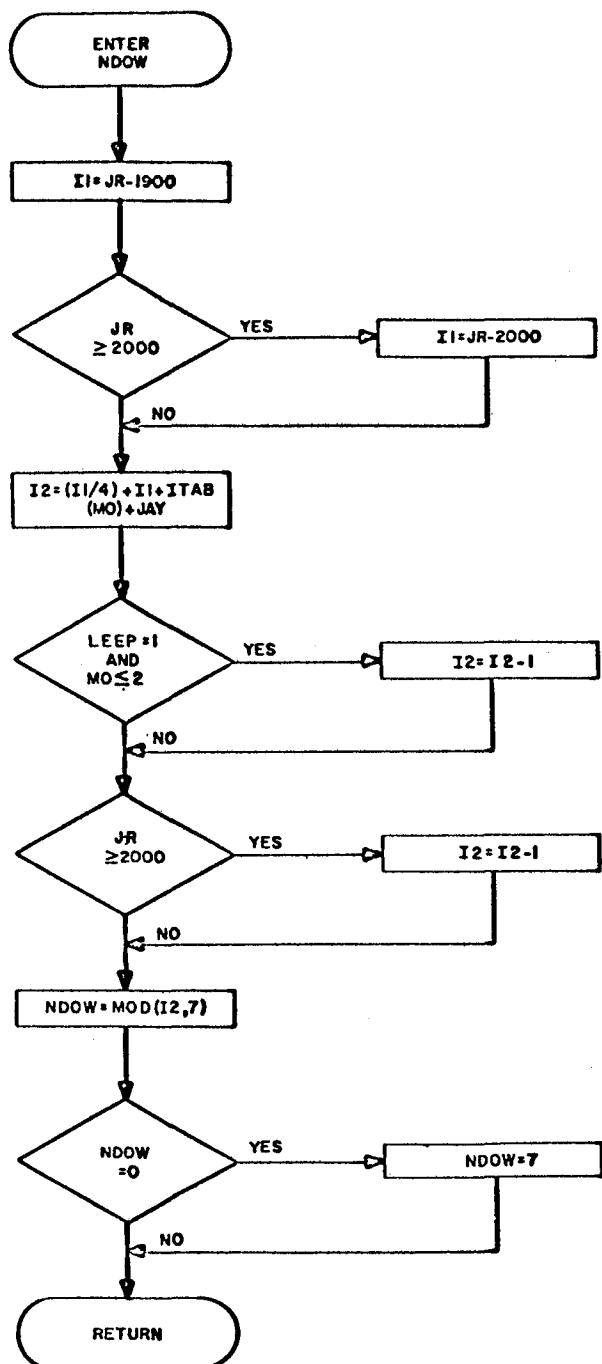


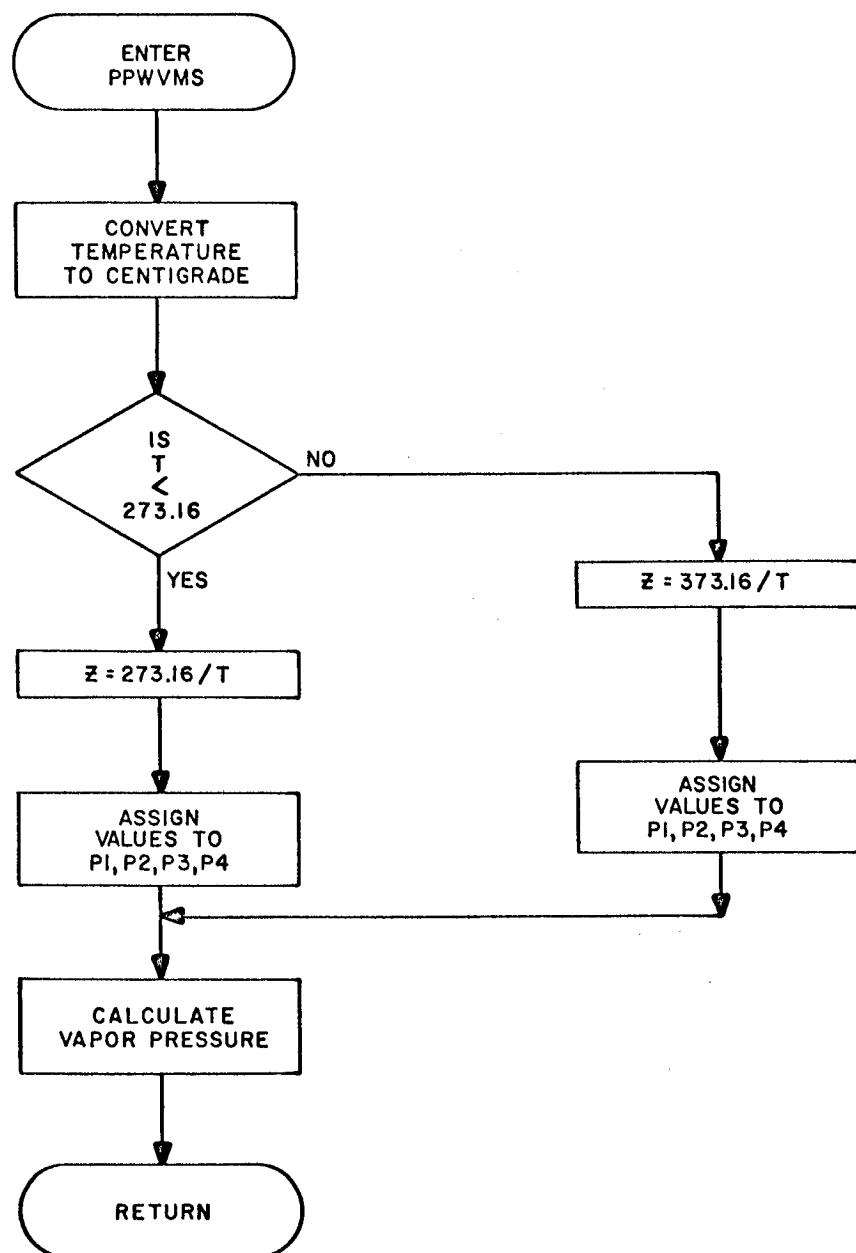


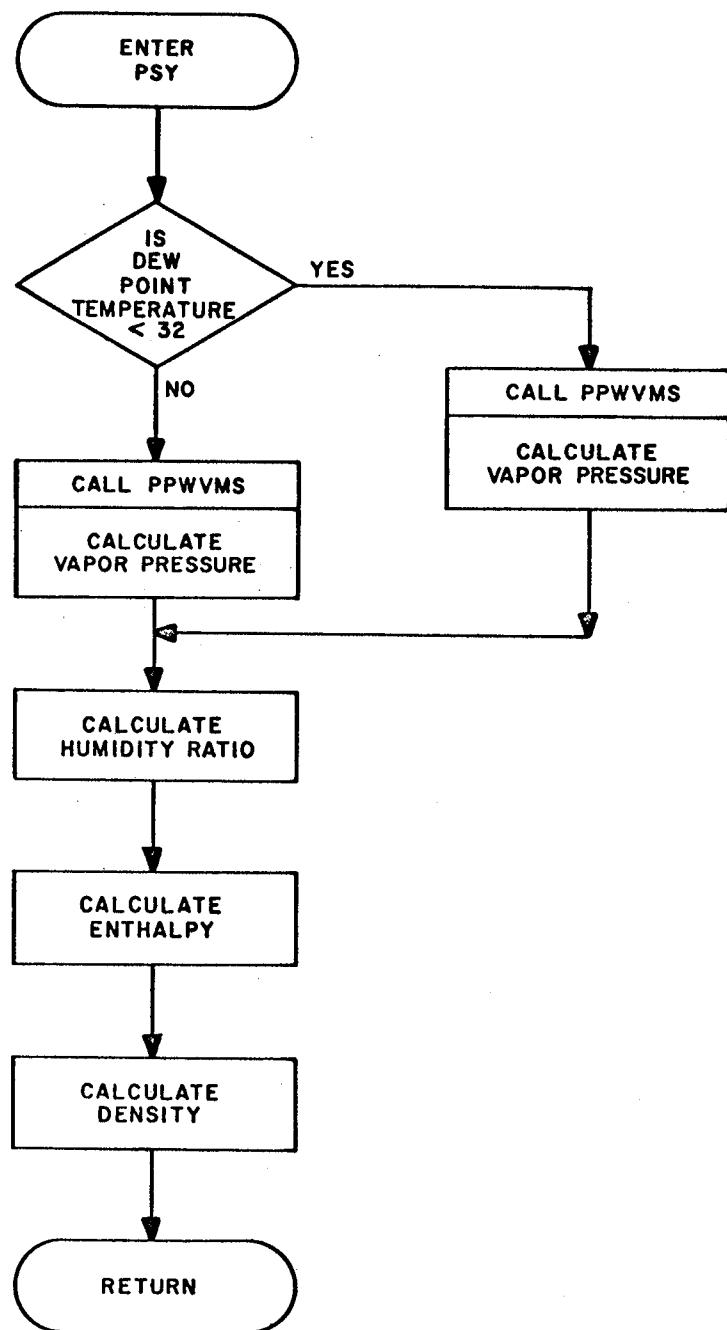


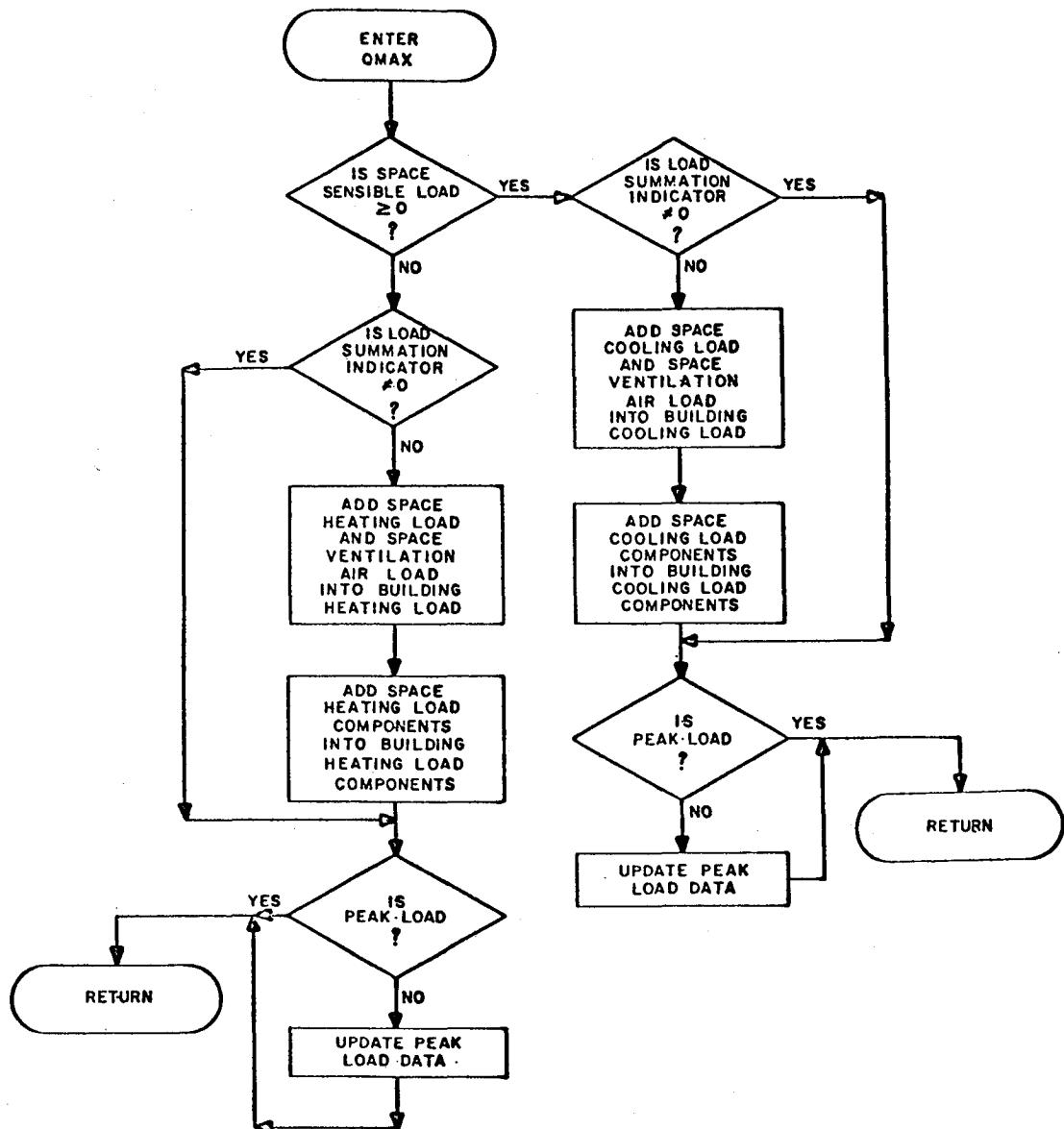
TLAP  
MATCON

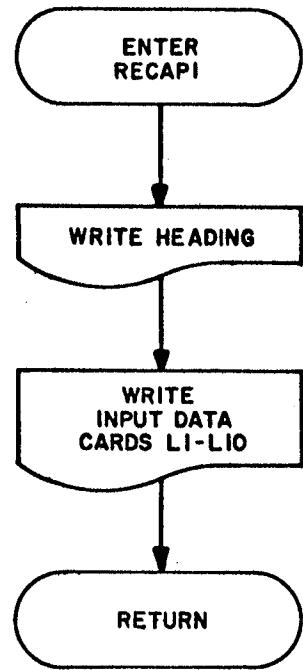


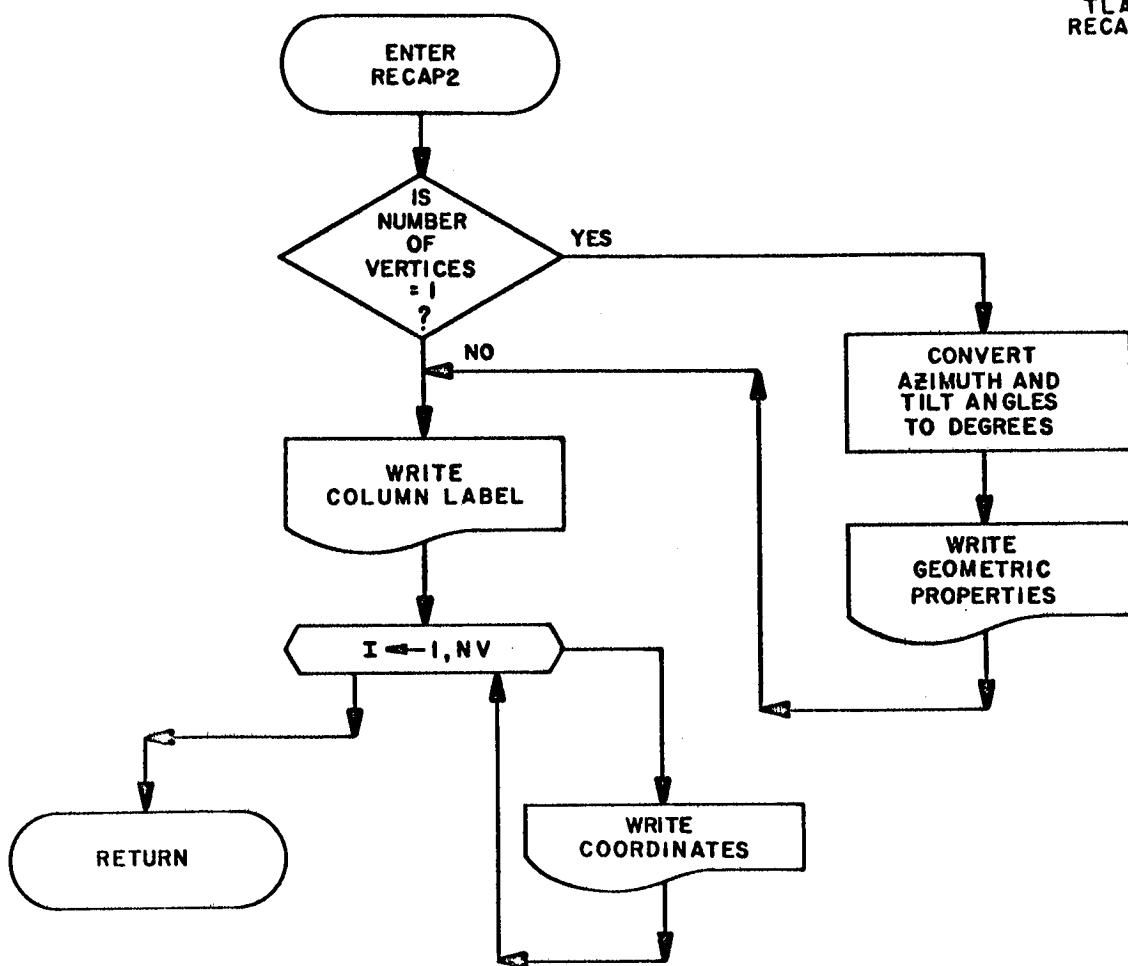




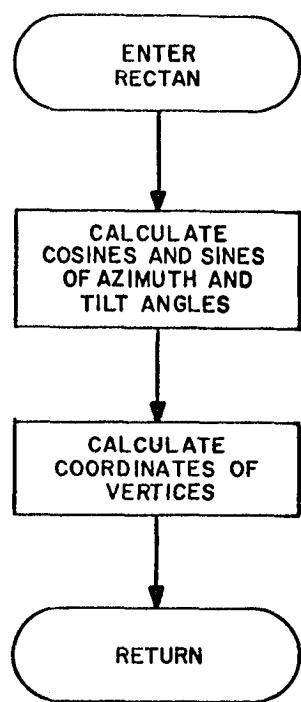


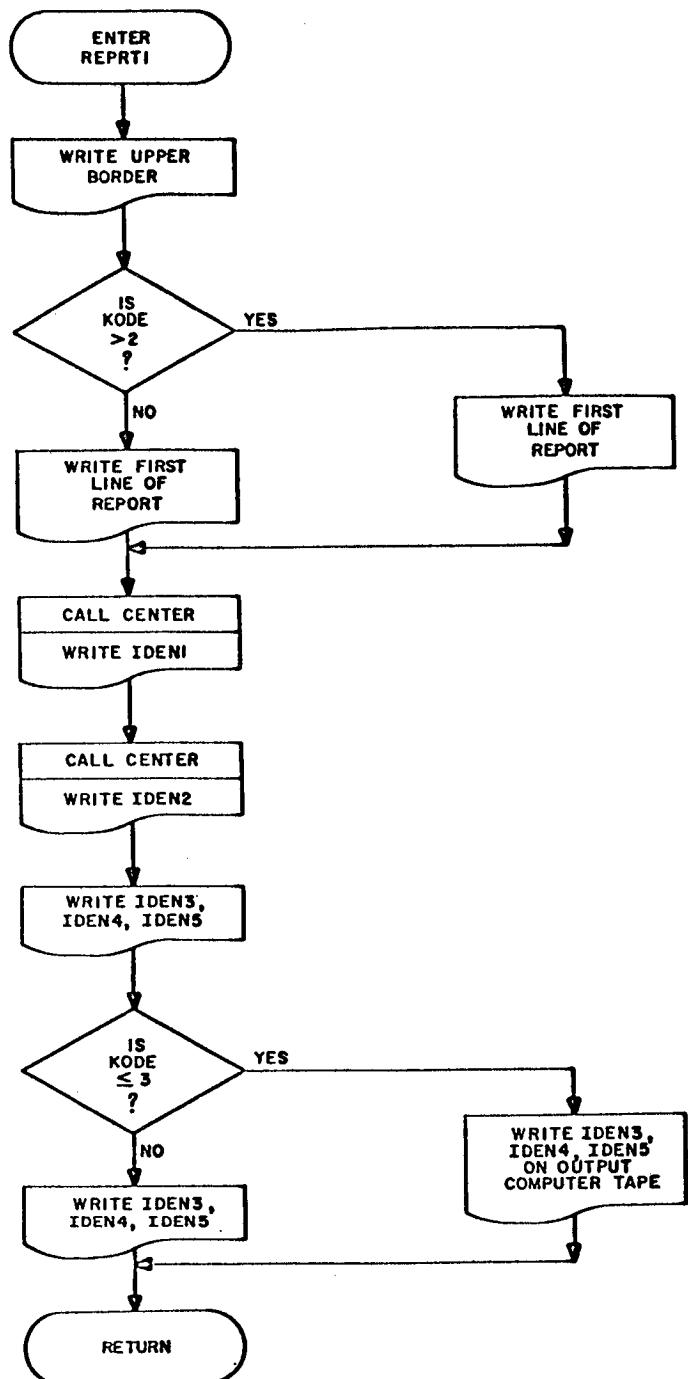


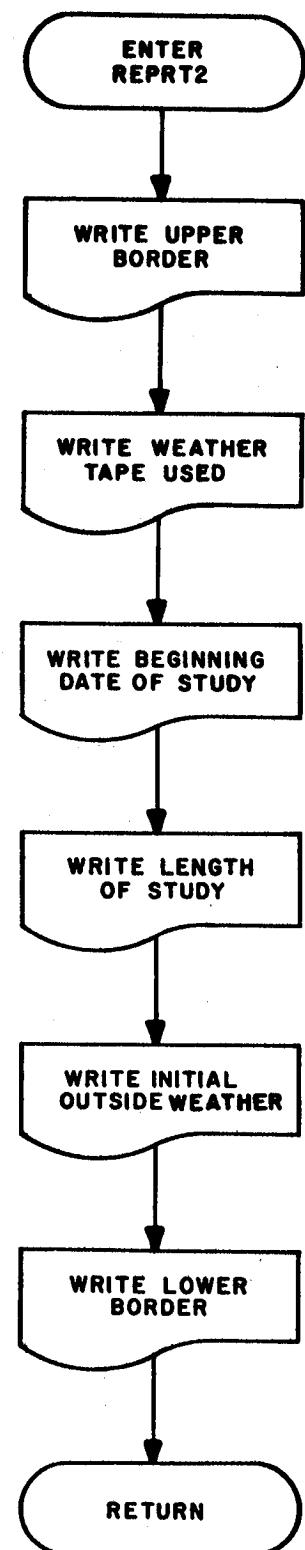


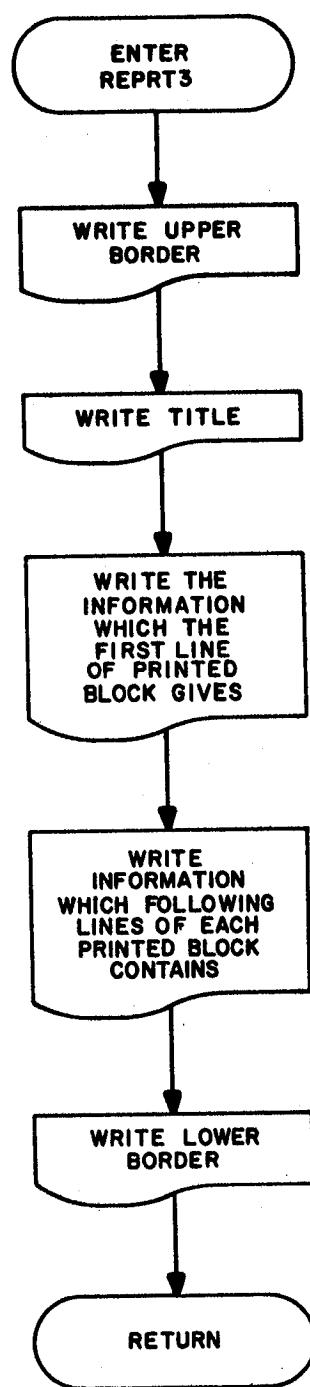


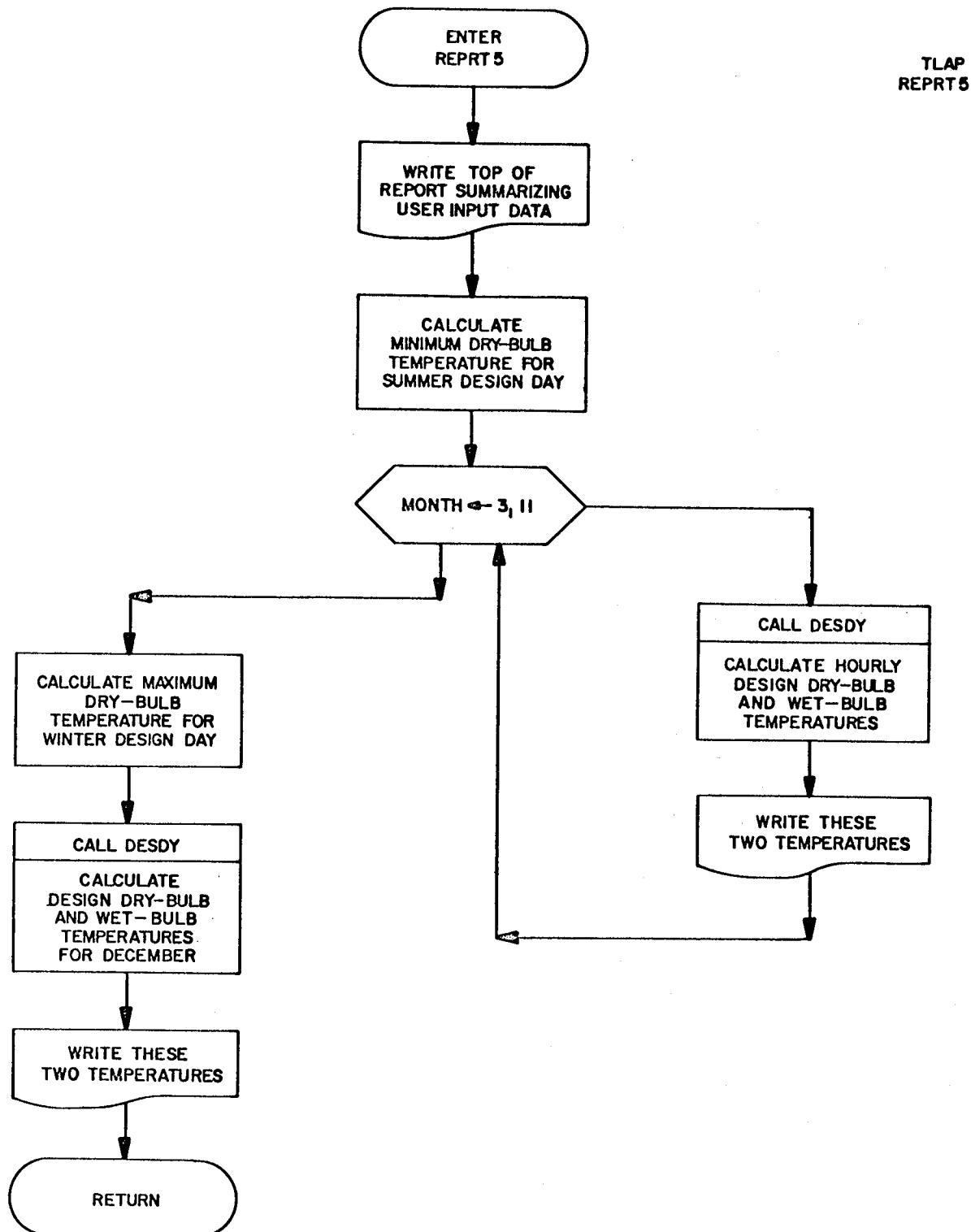
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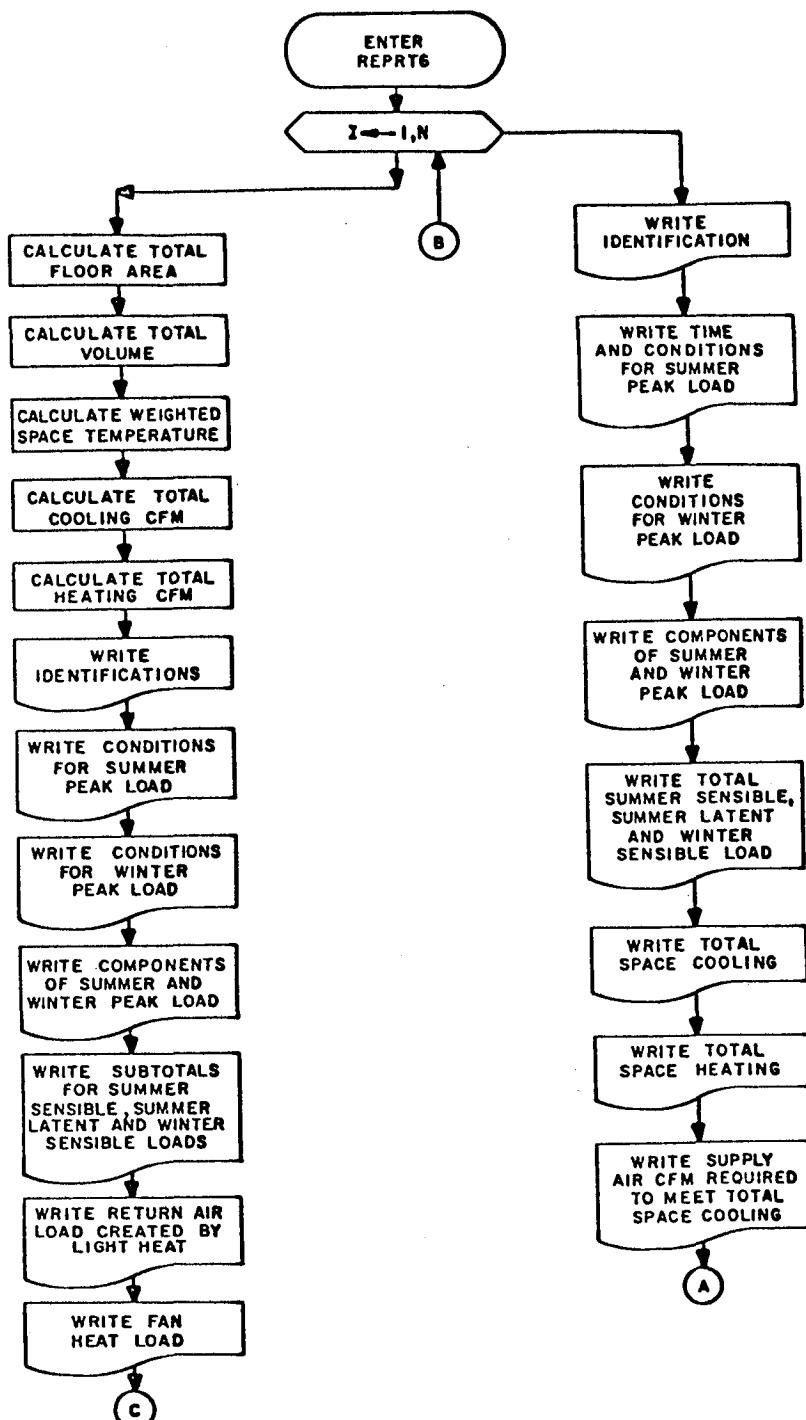


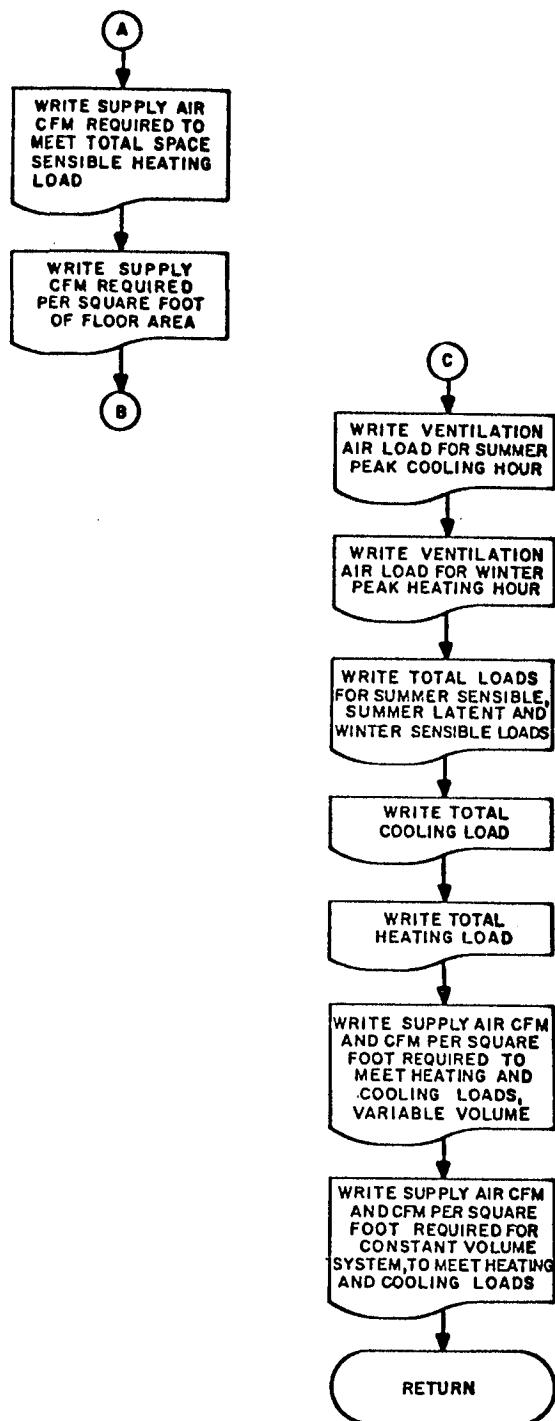




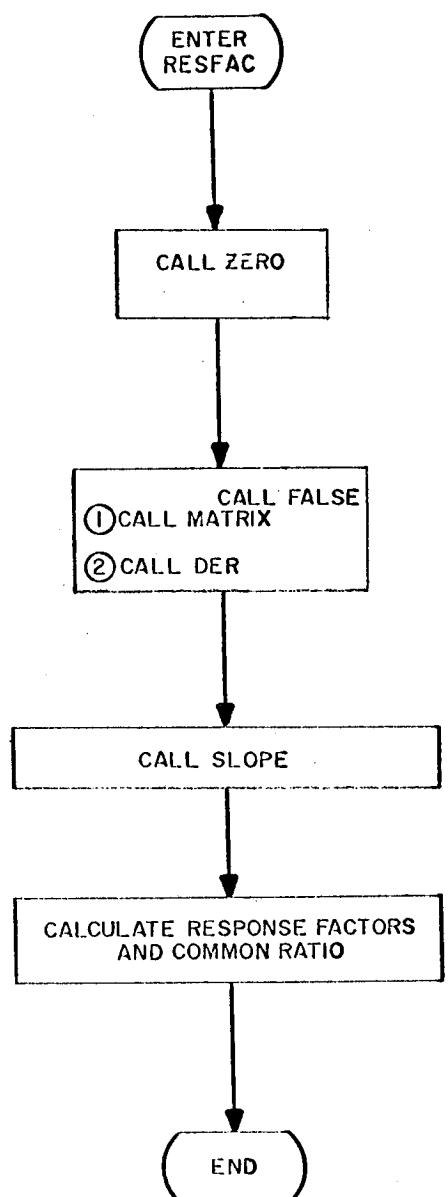


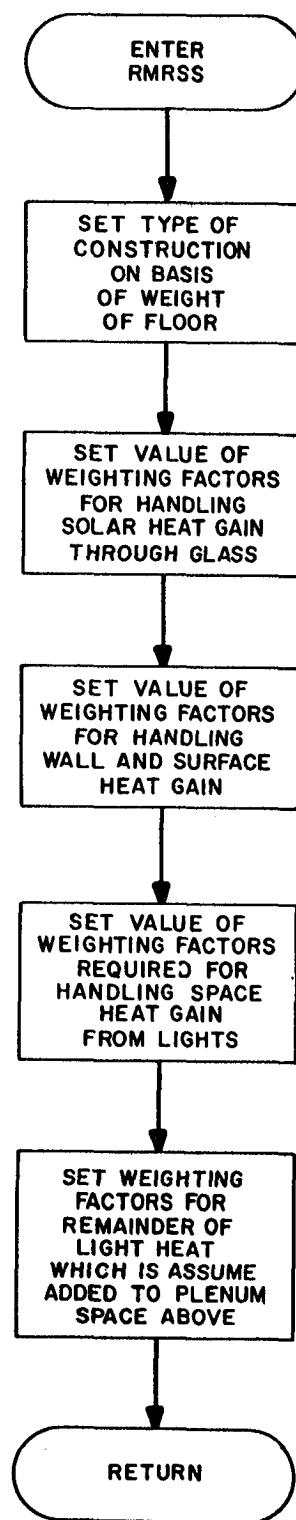


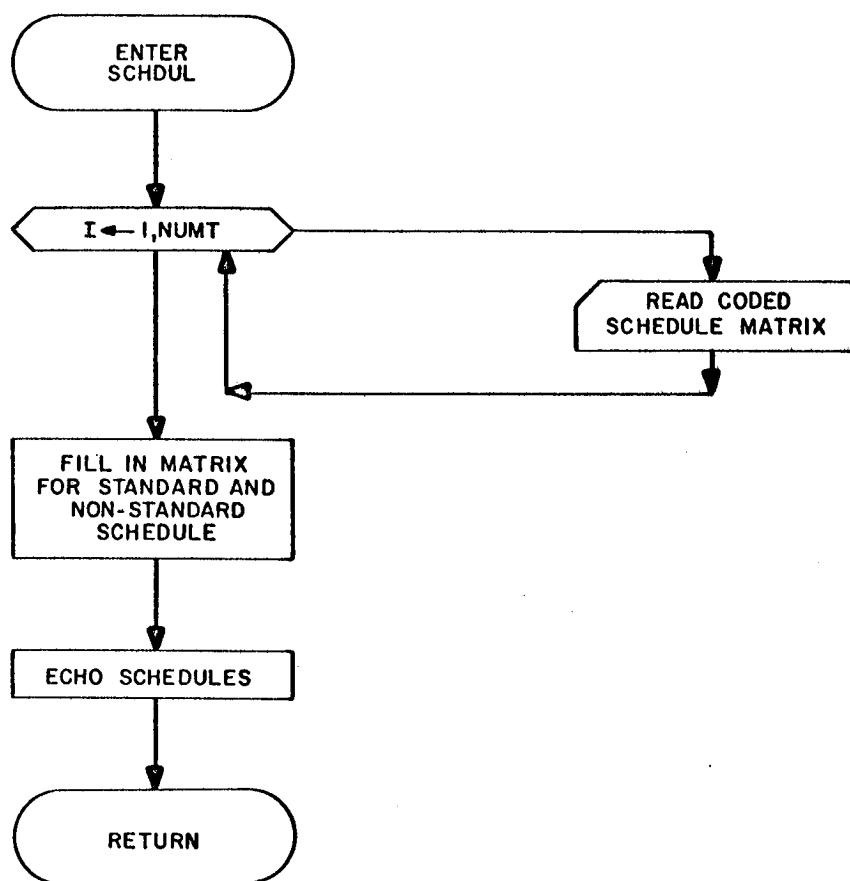


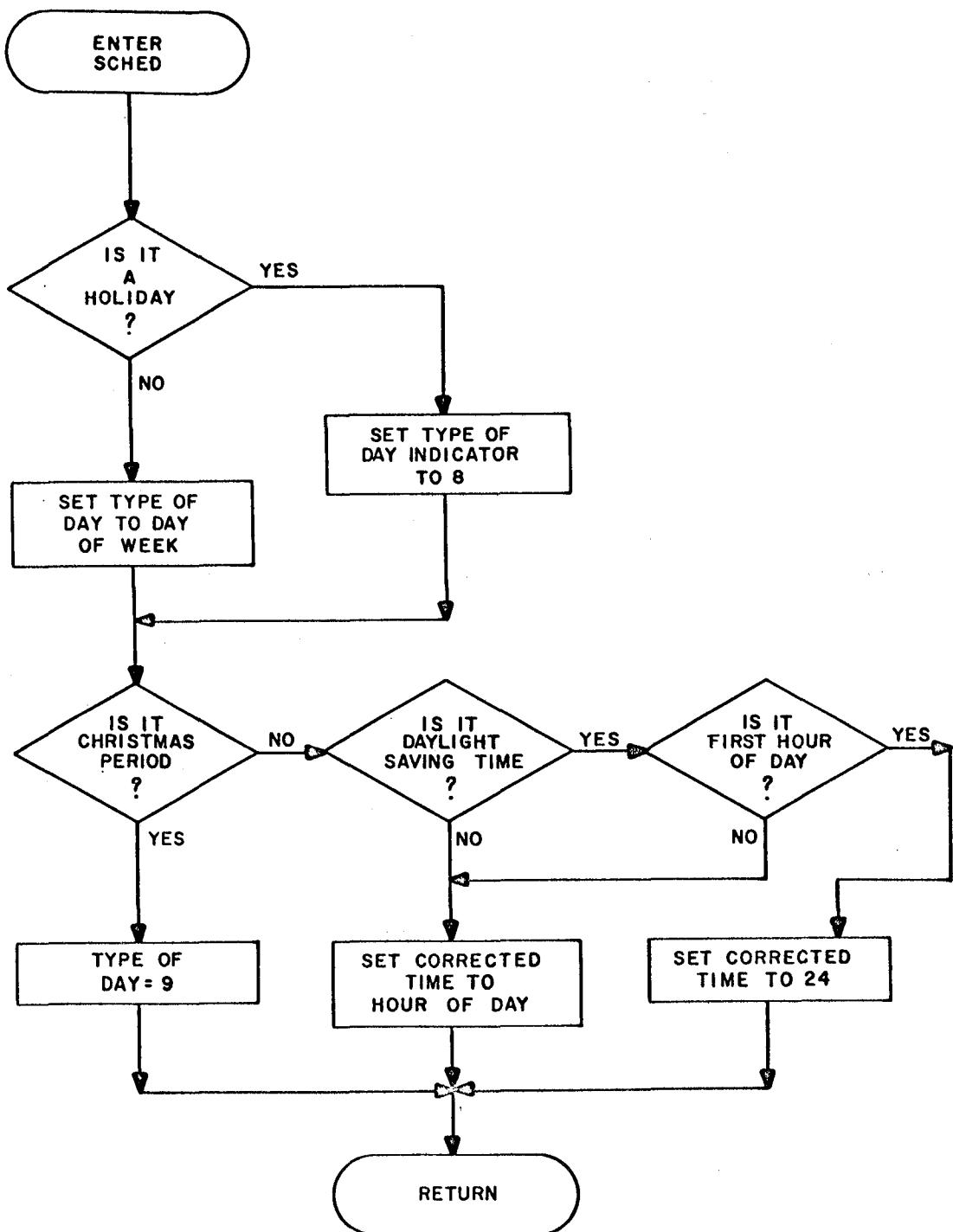


**RESFAC  
(TLAP AND SESP)**

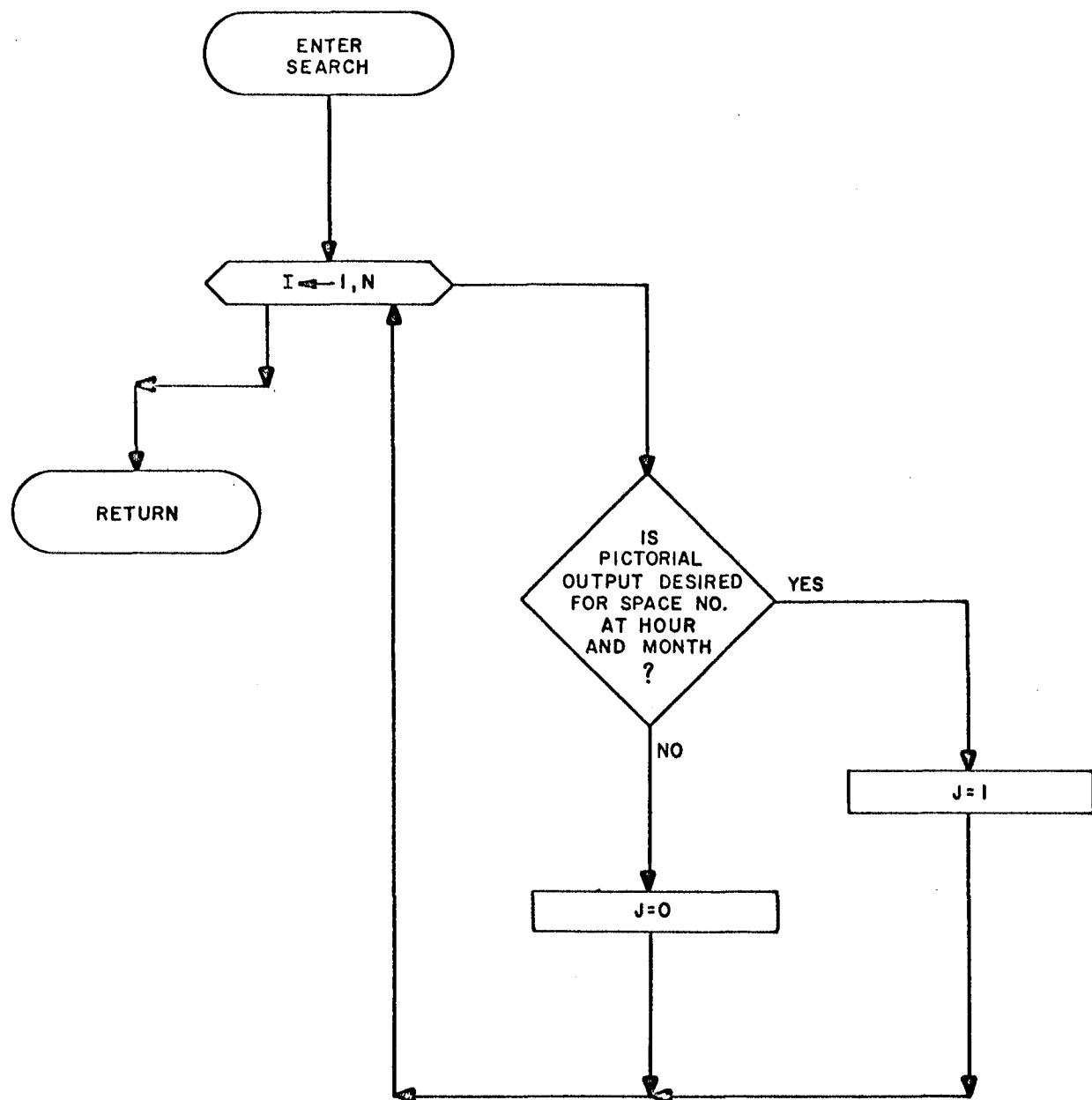


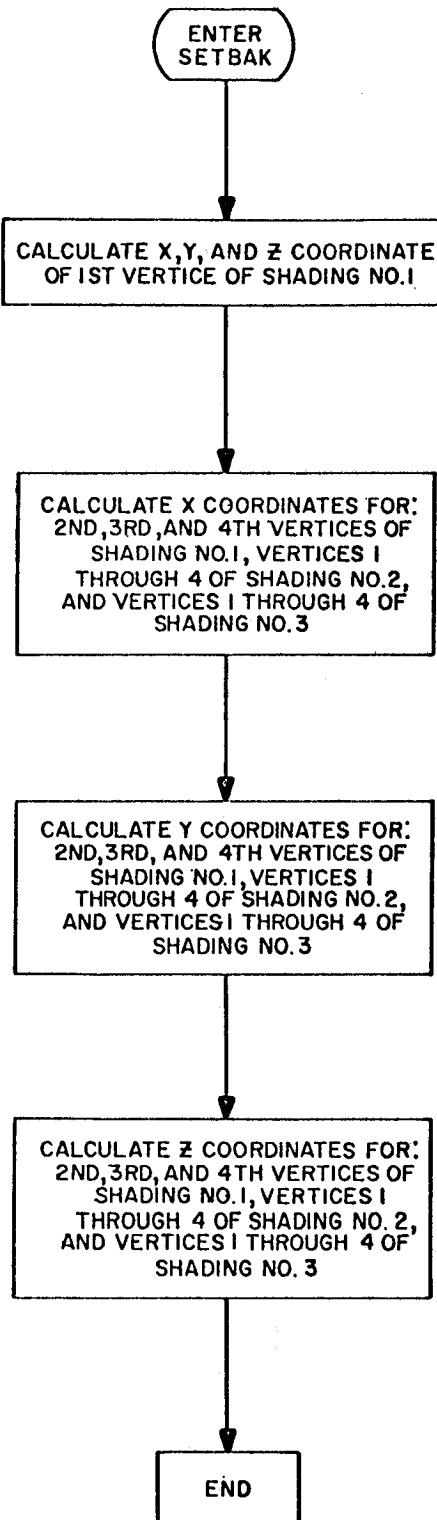




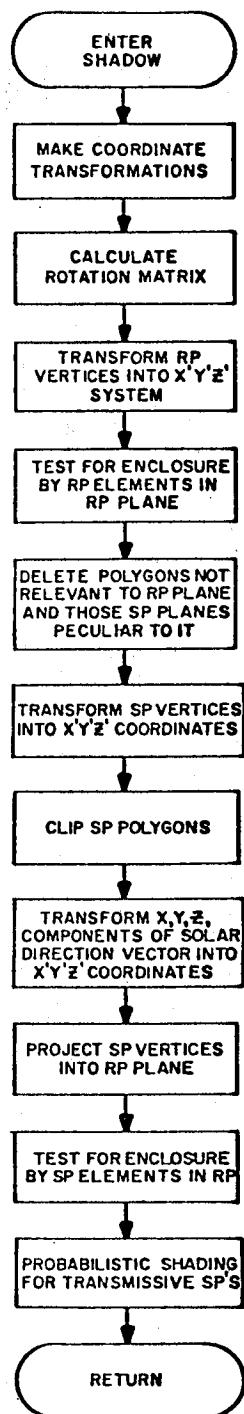


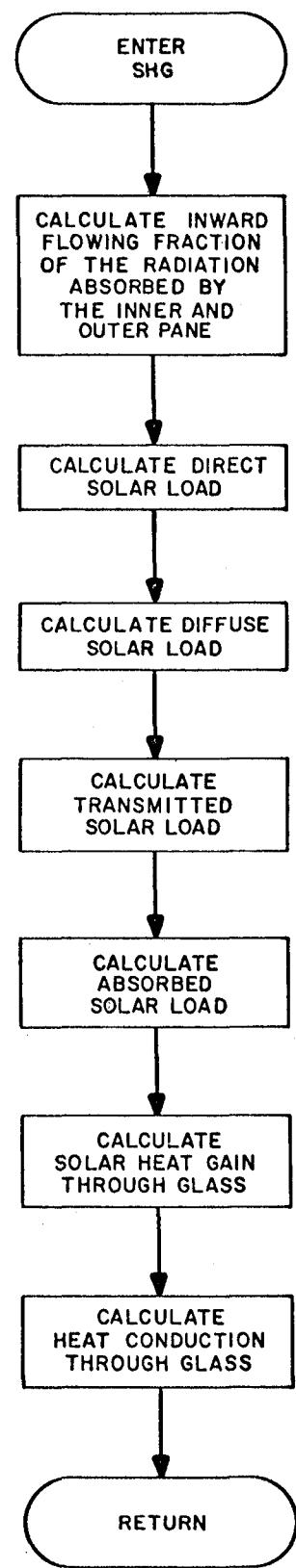
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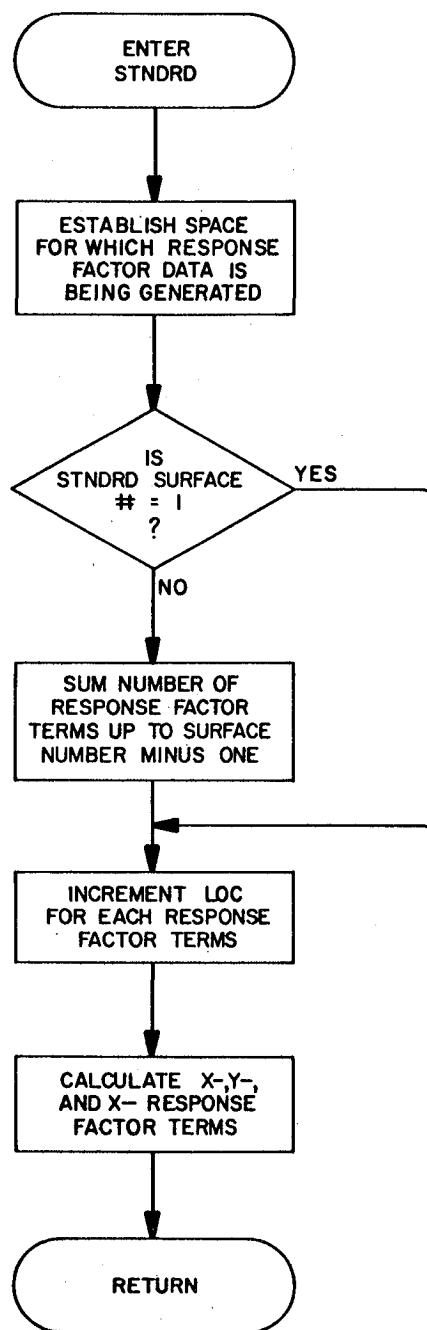


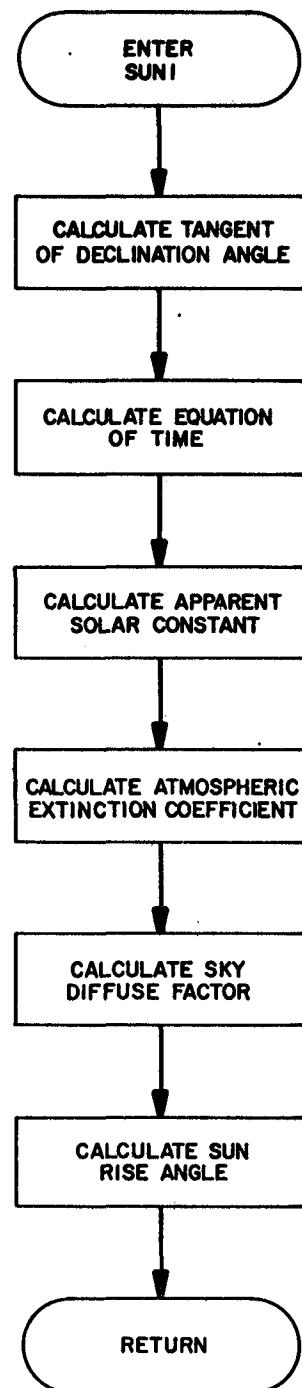


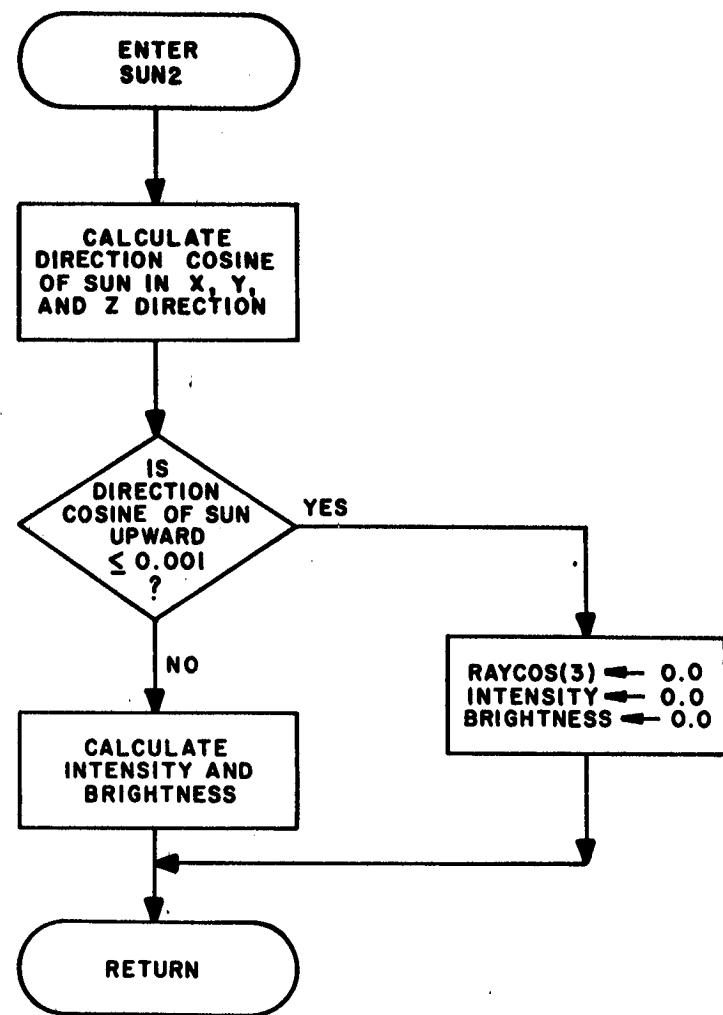
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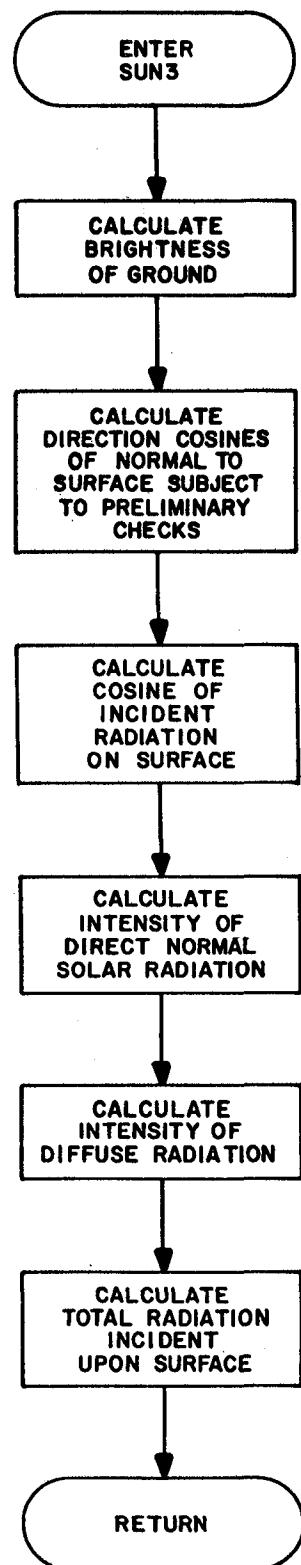


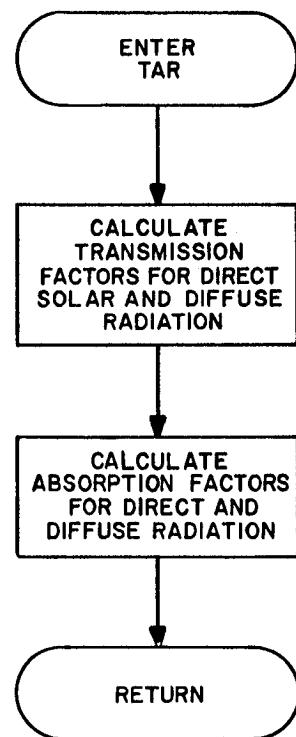


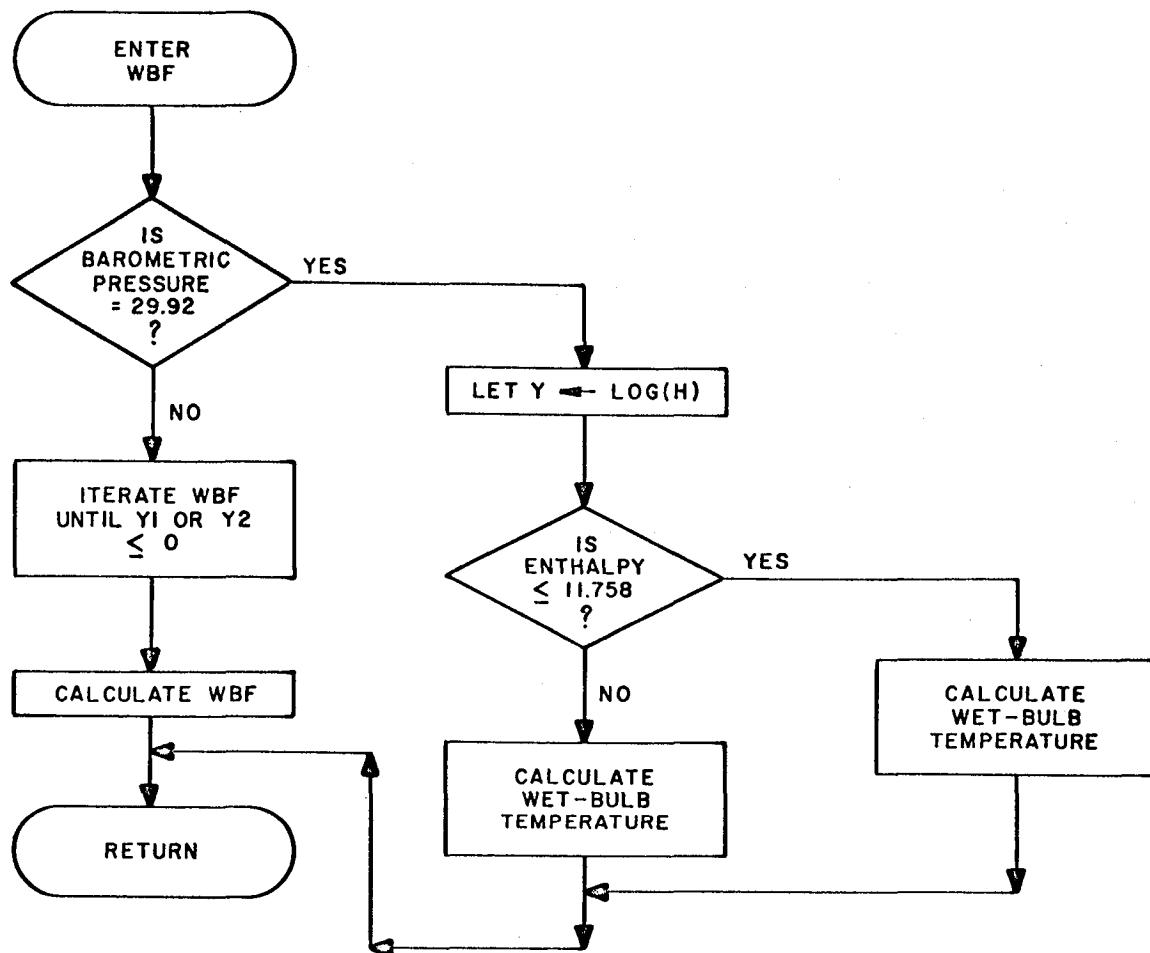






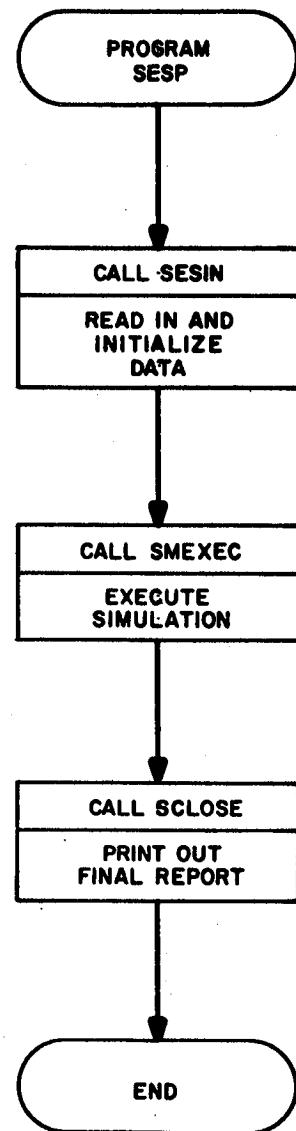




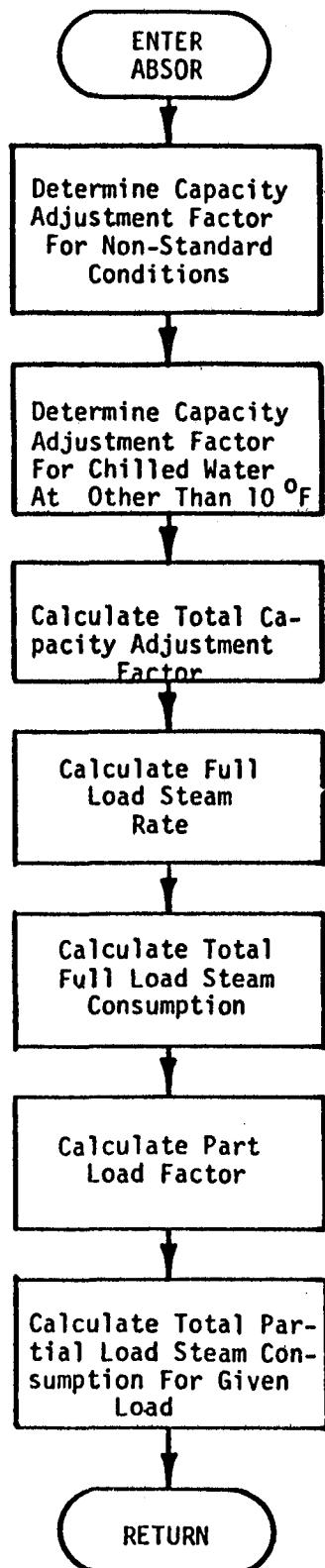


**Section 4**  
**SYSTEMS ENERGY SIMULATION PROGRAM**

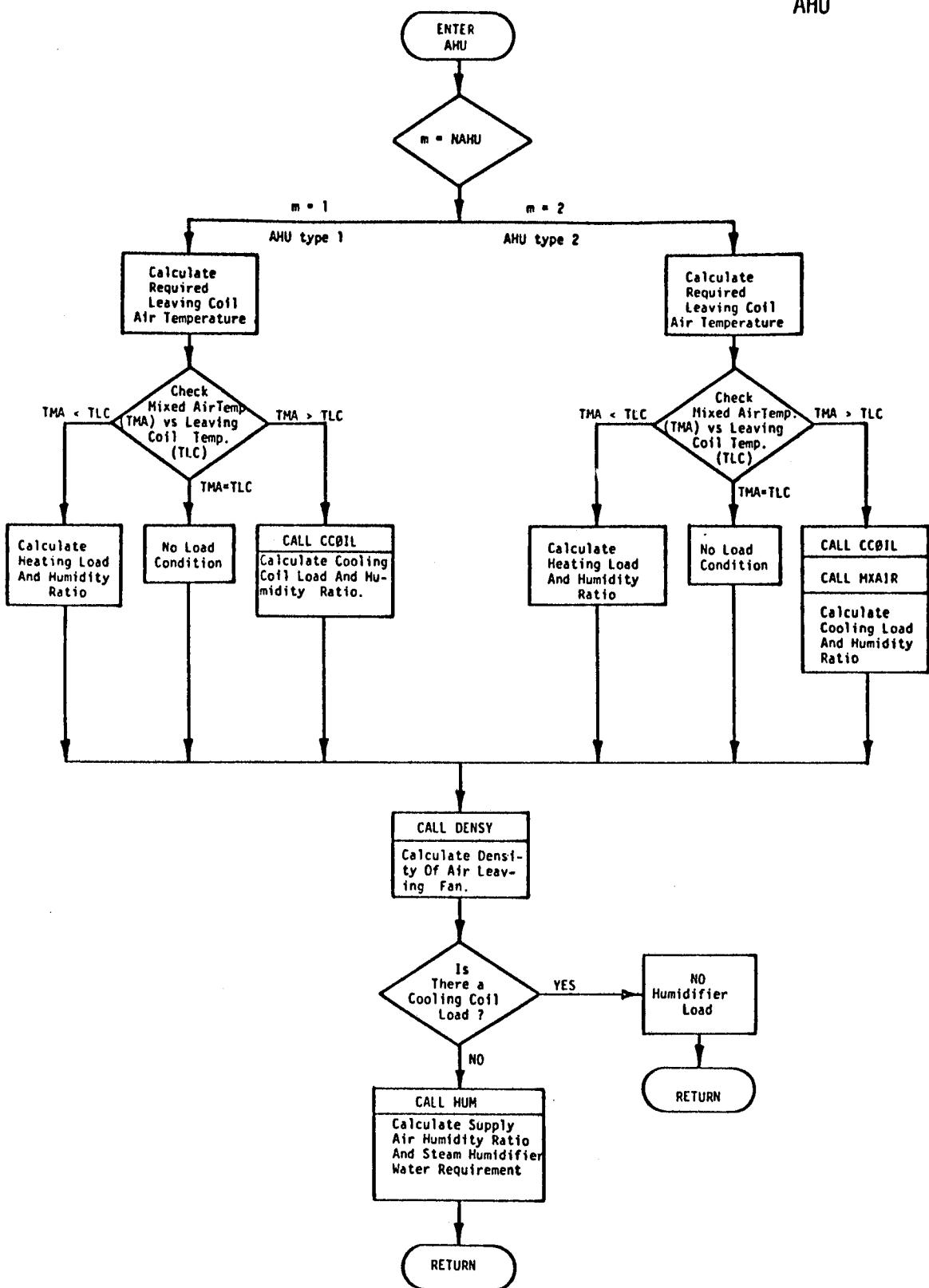


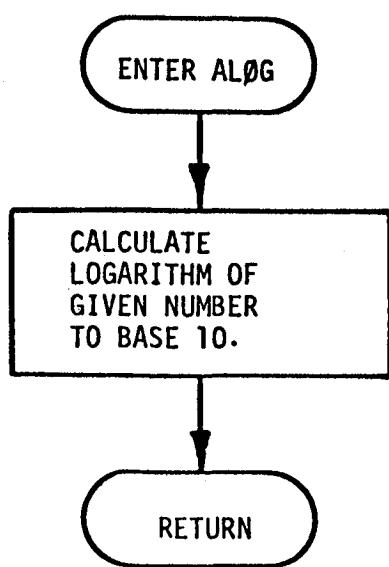


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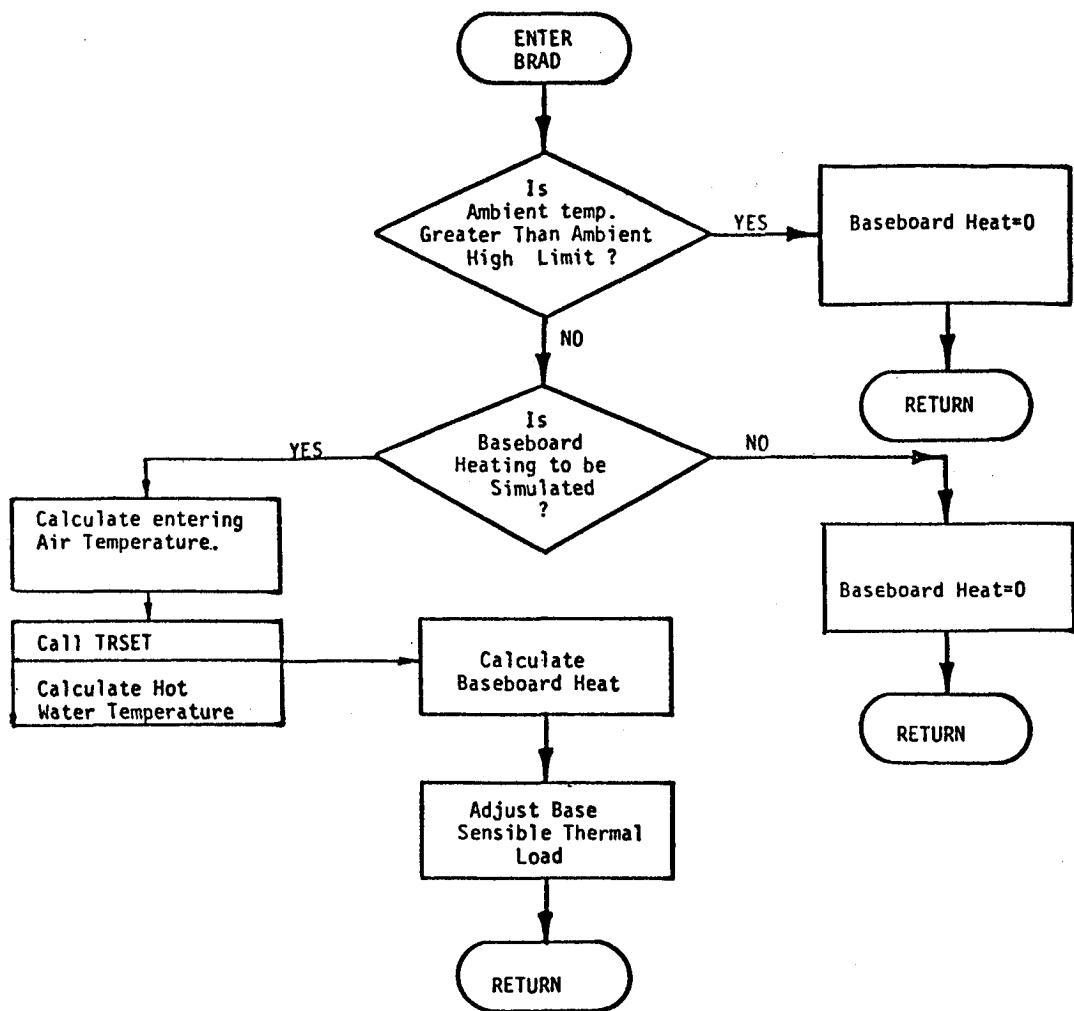


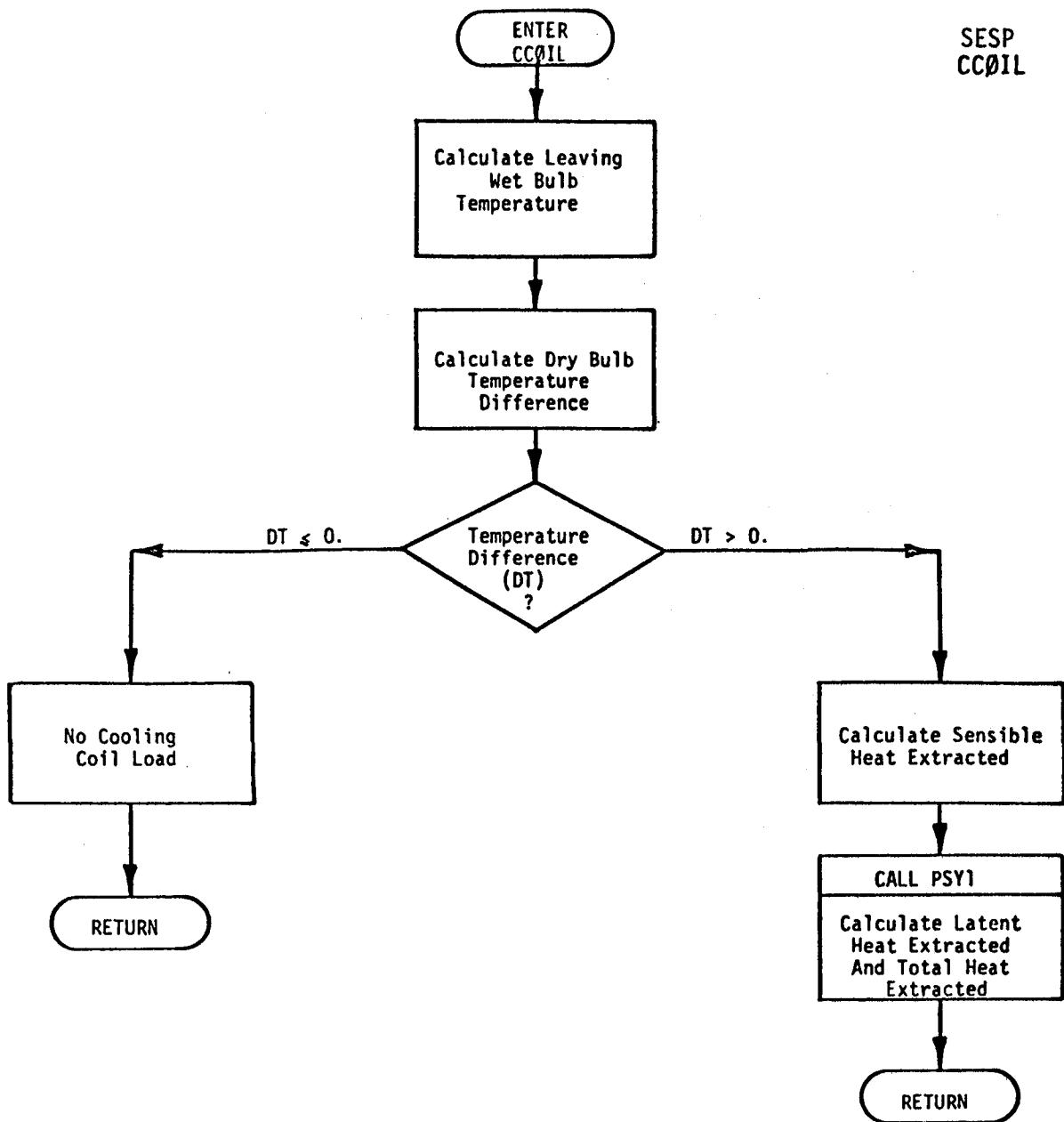
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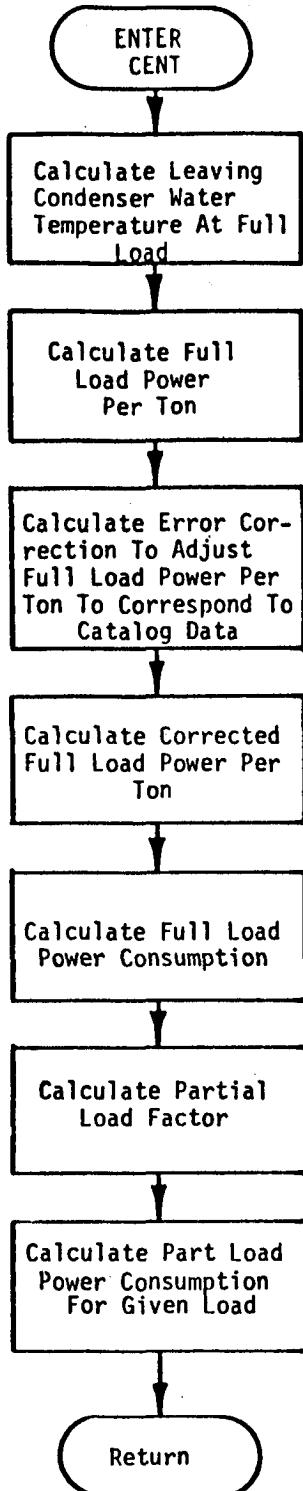




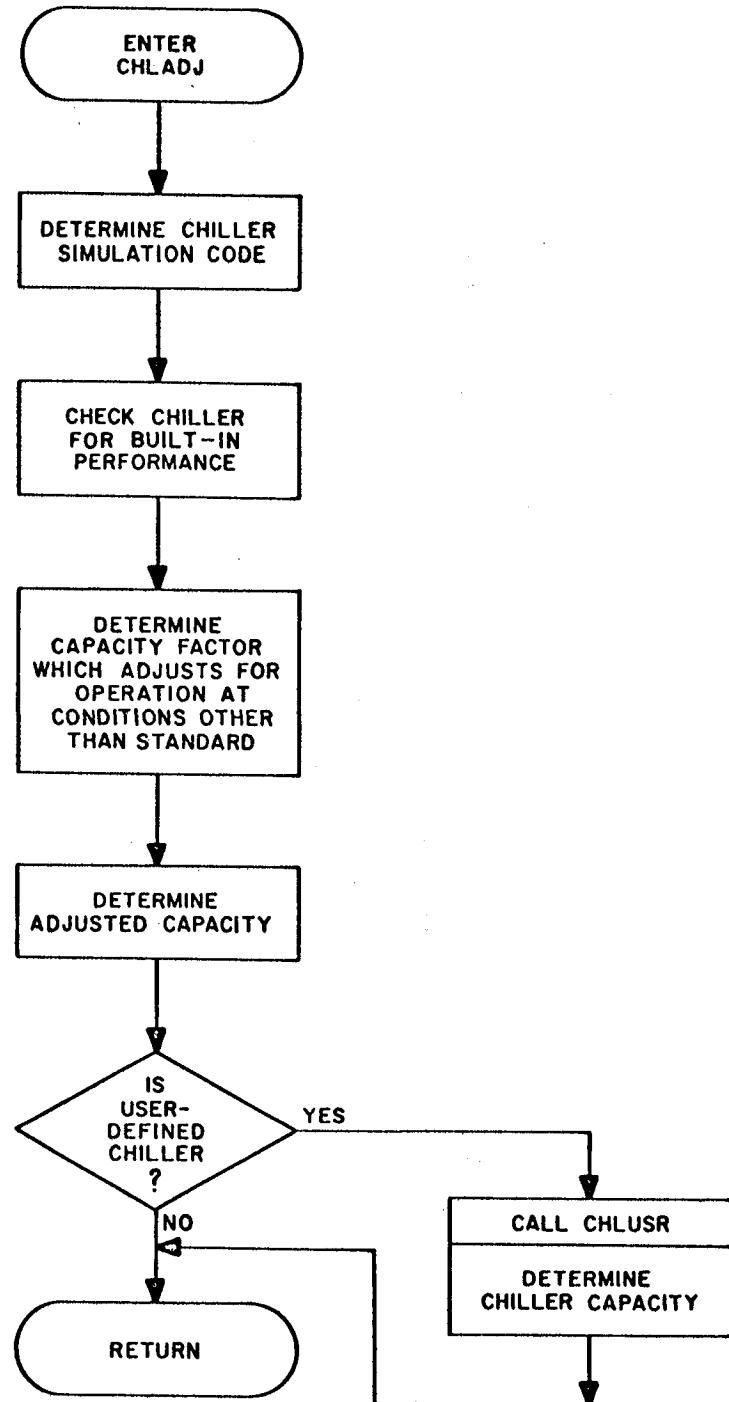
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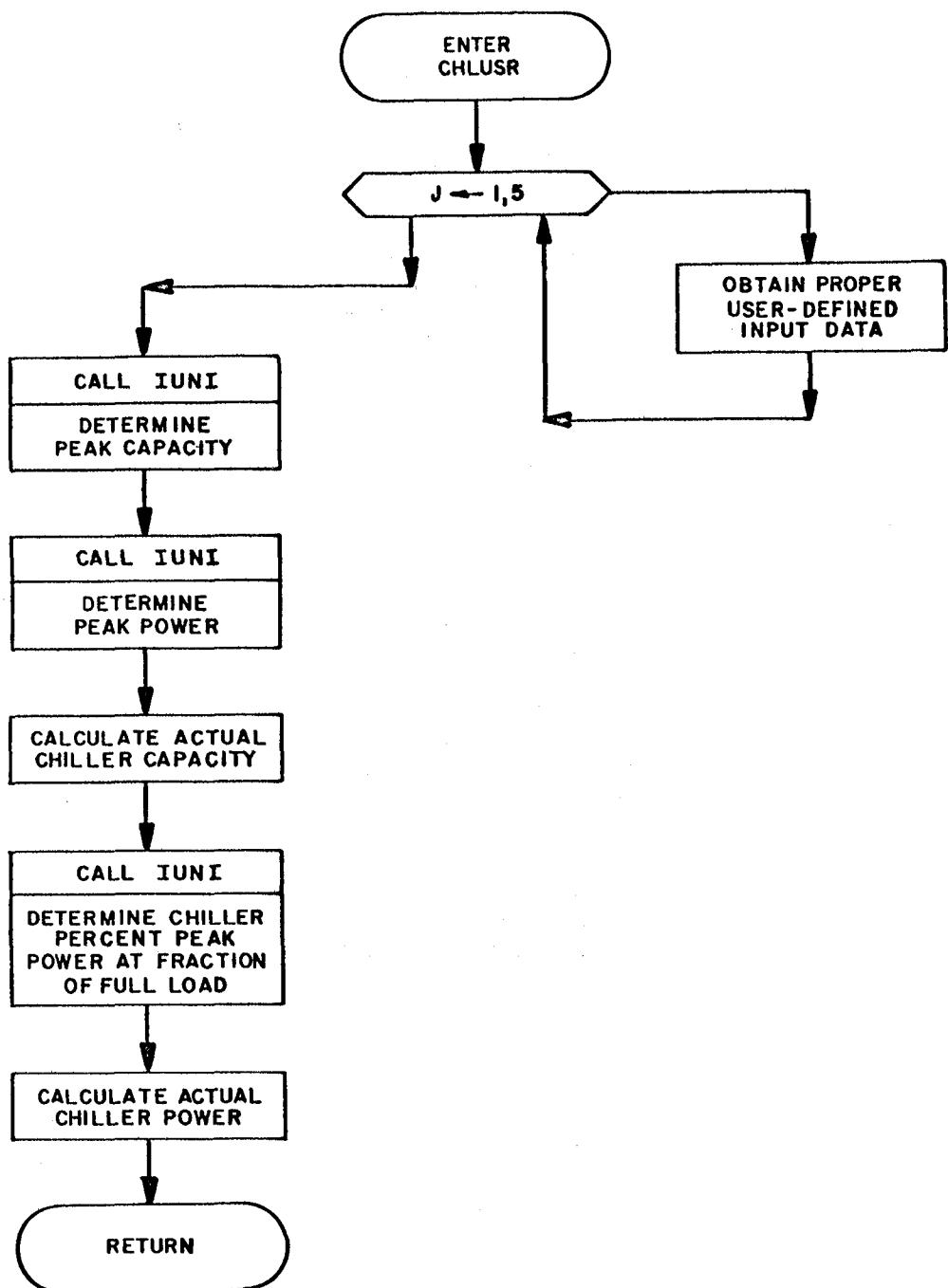




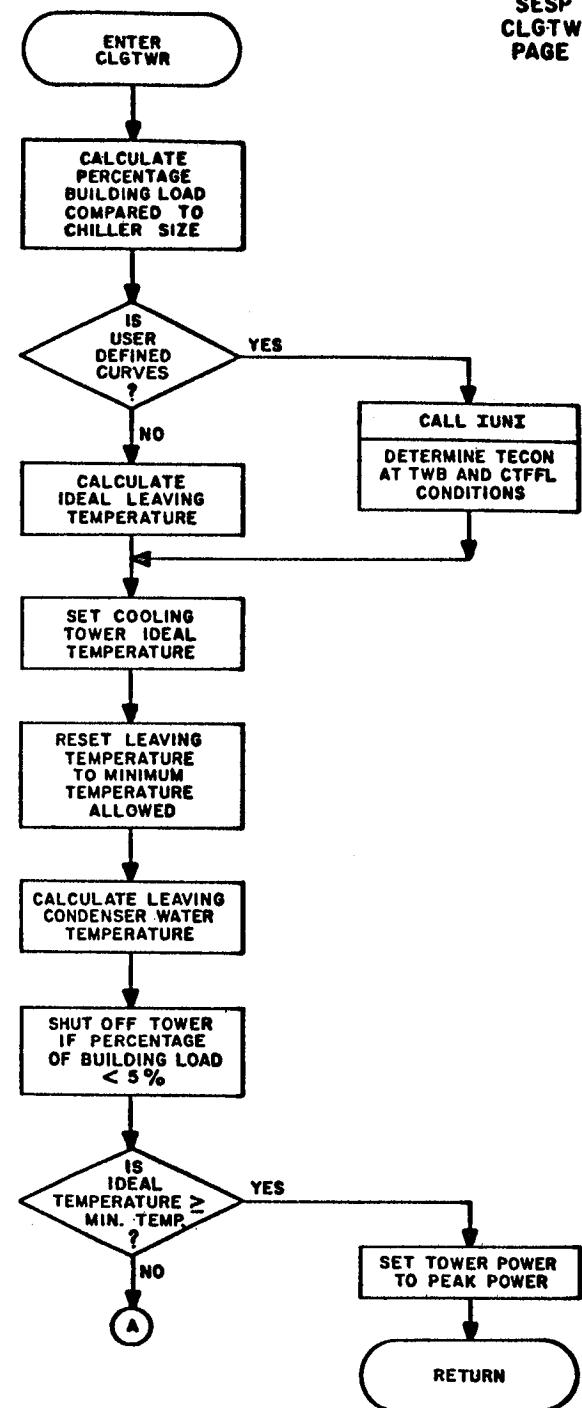


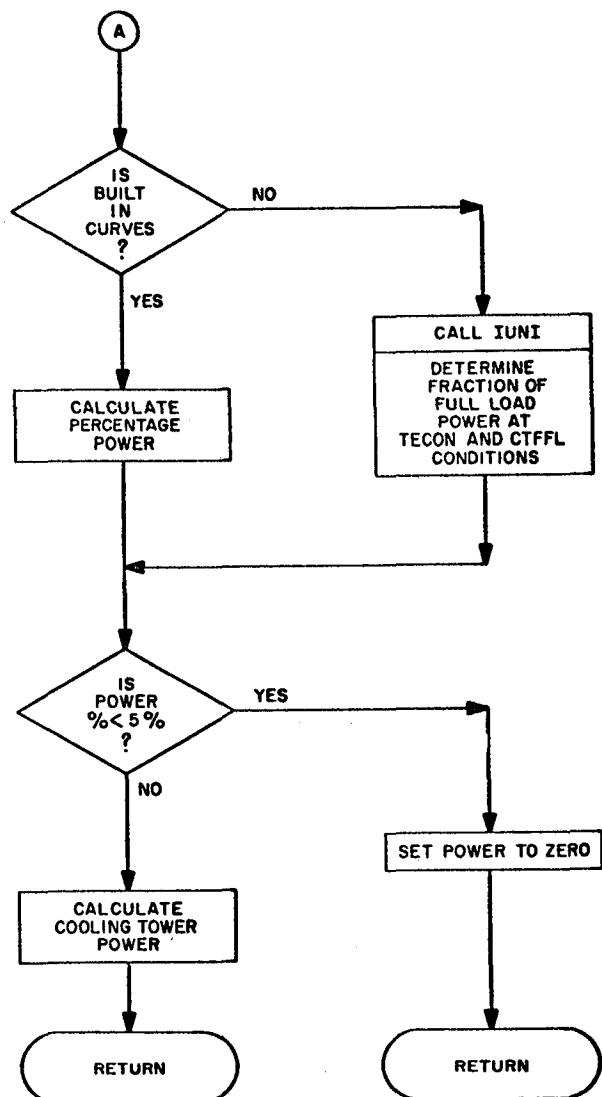
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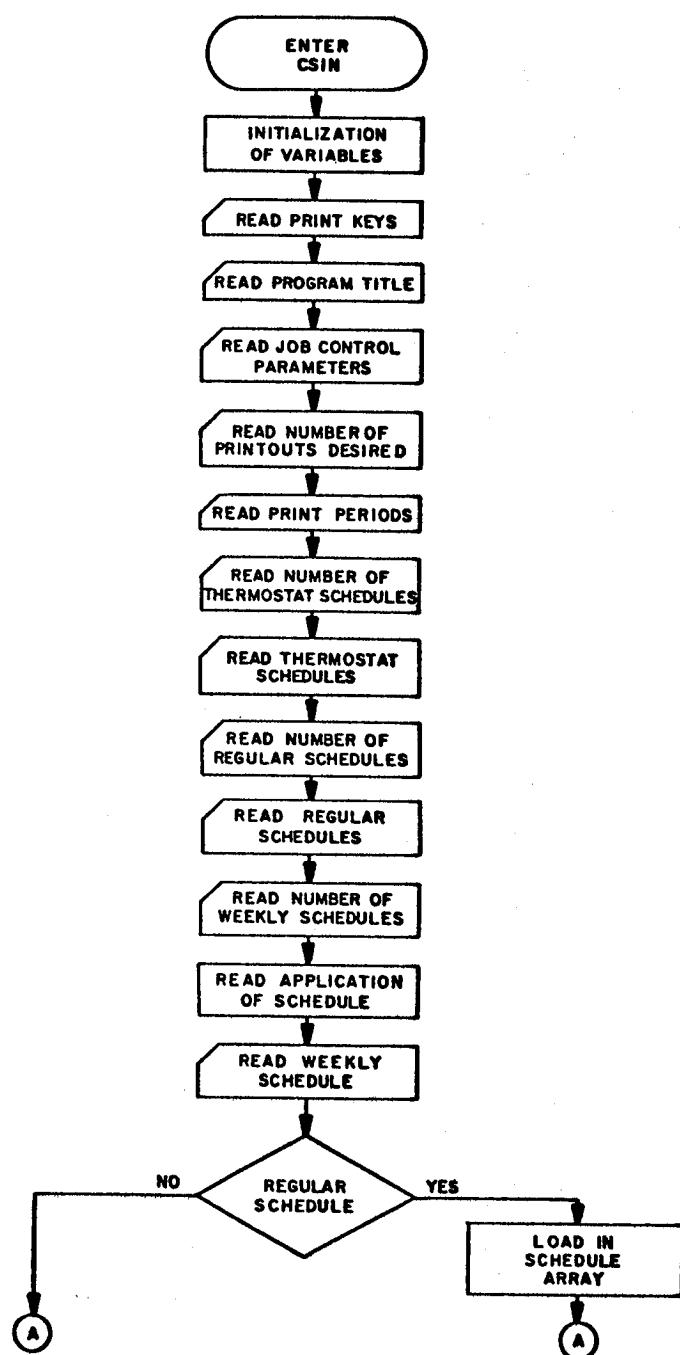


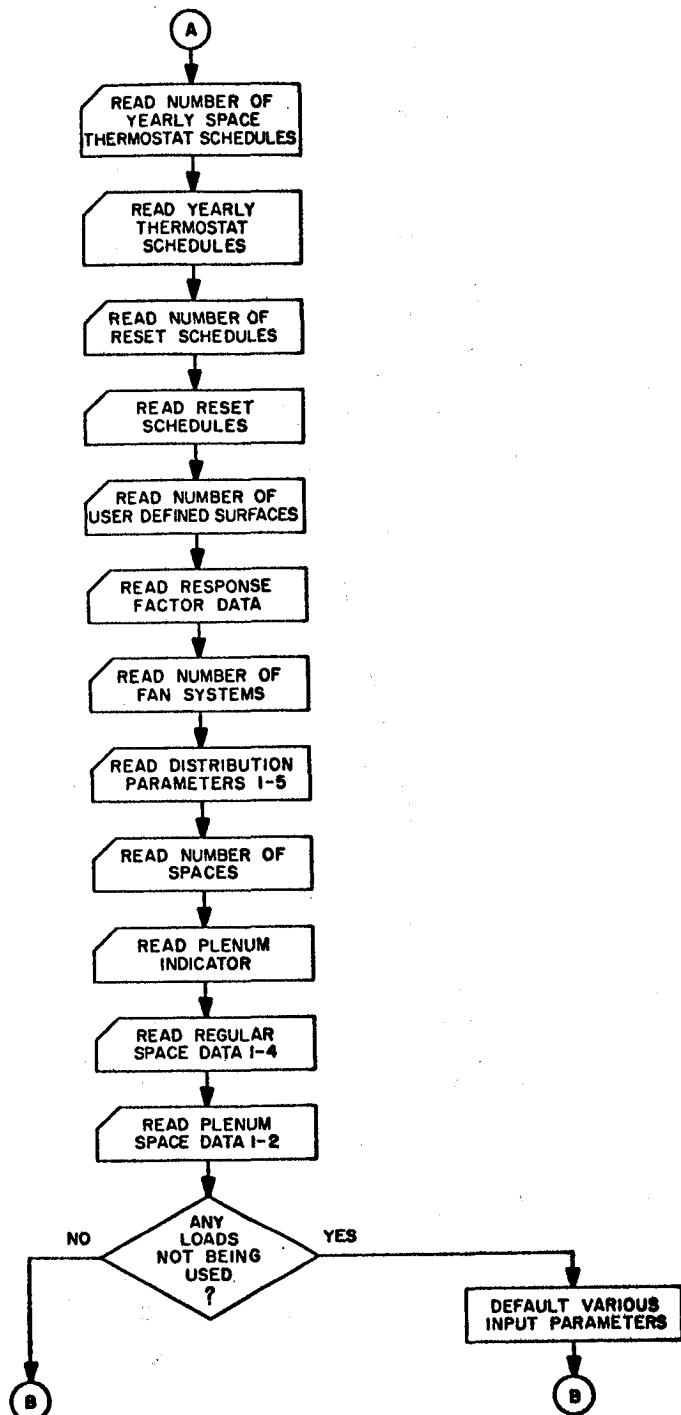


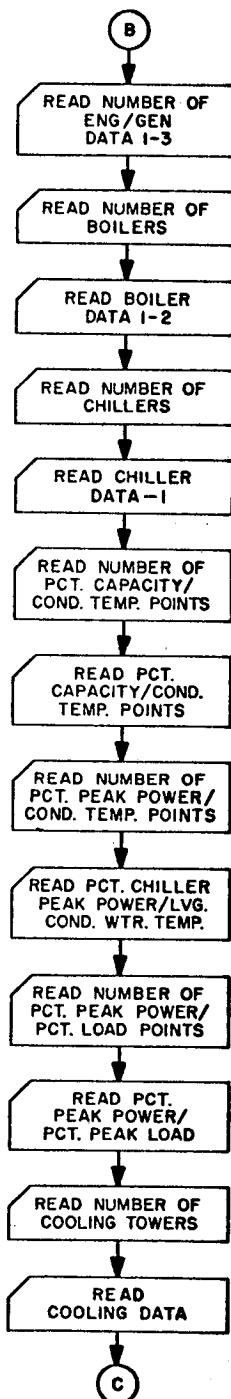
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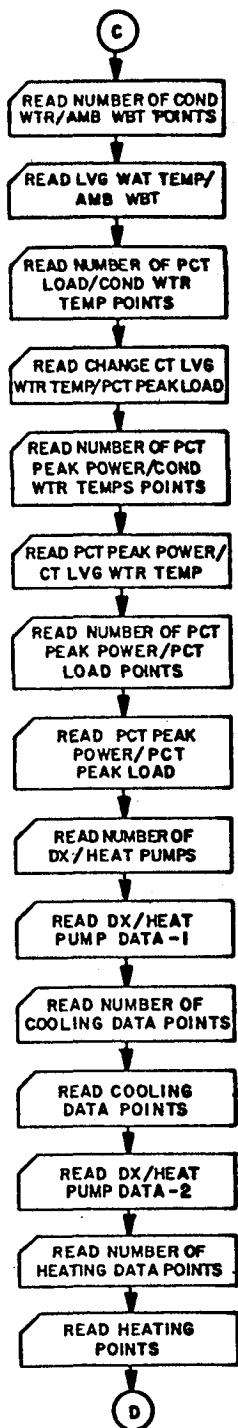


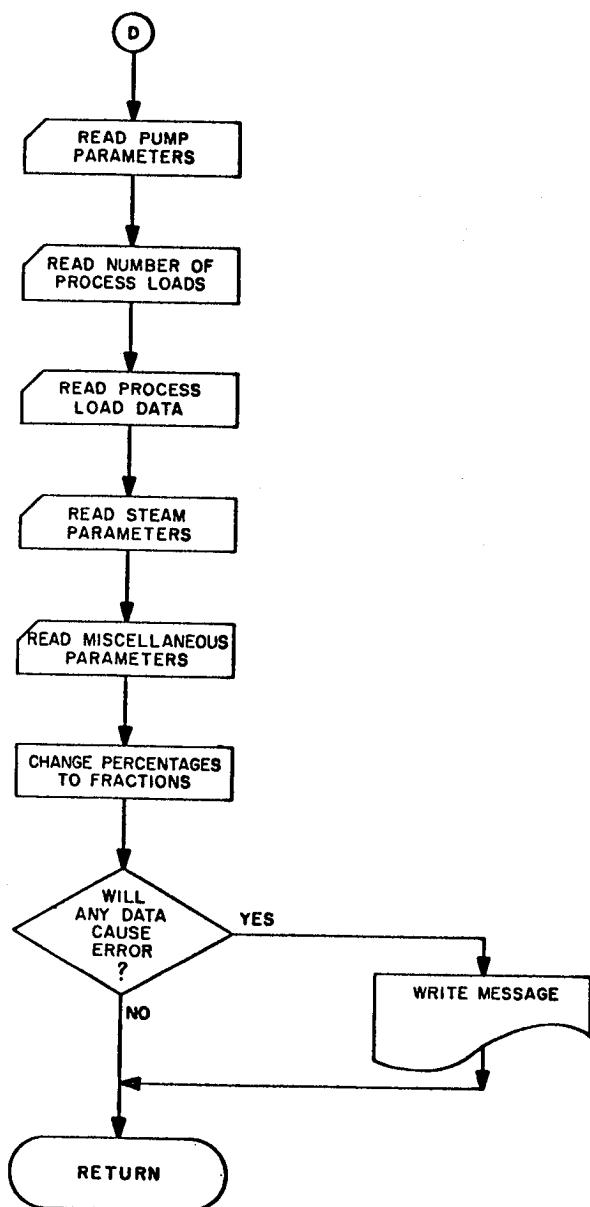




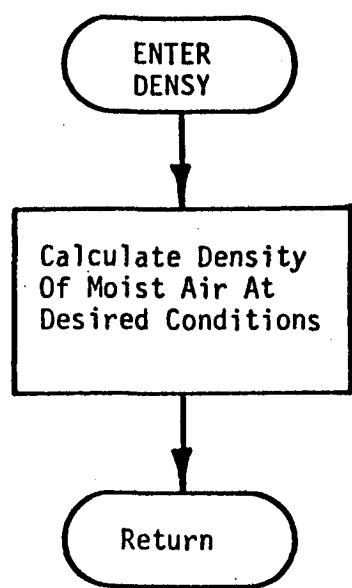


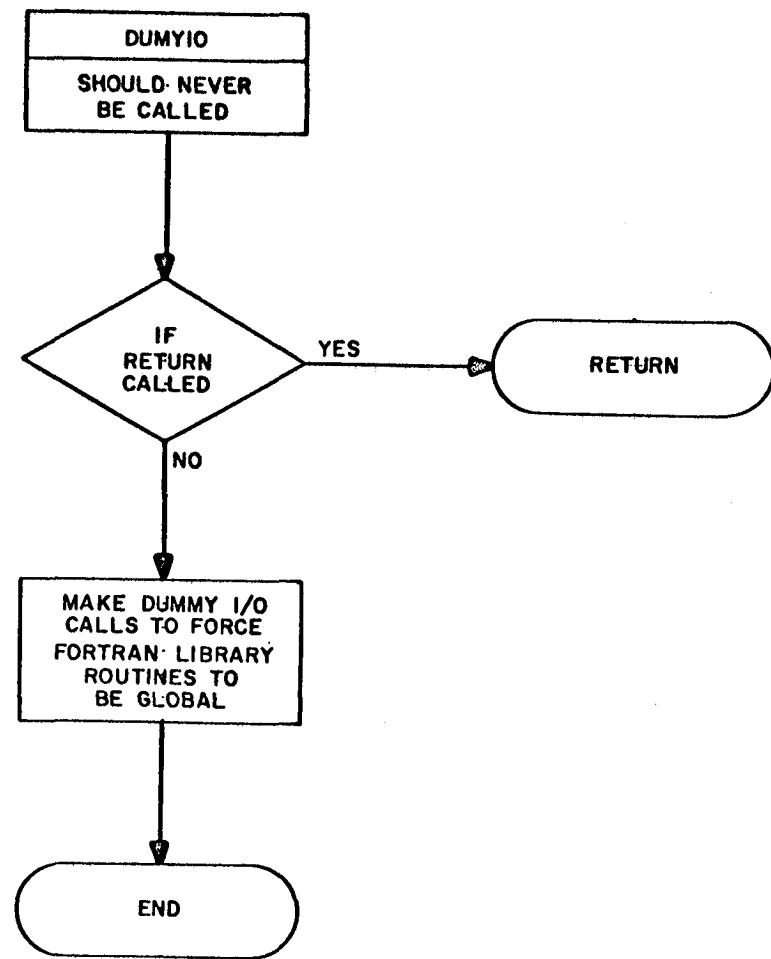


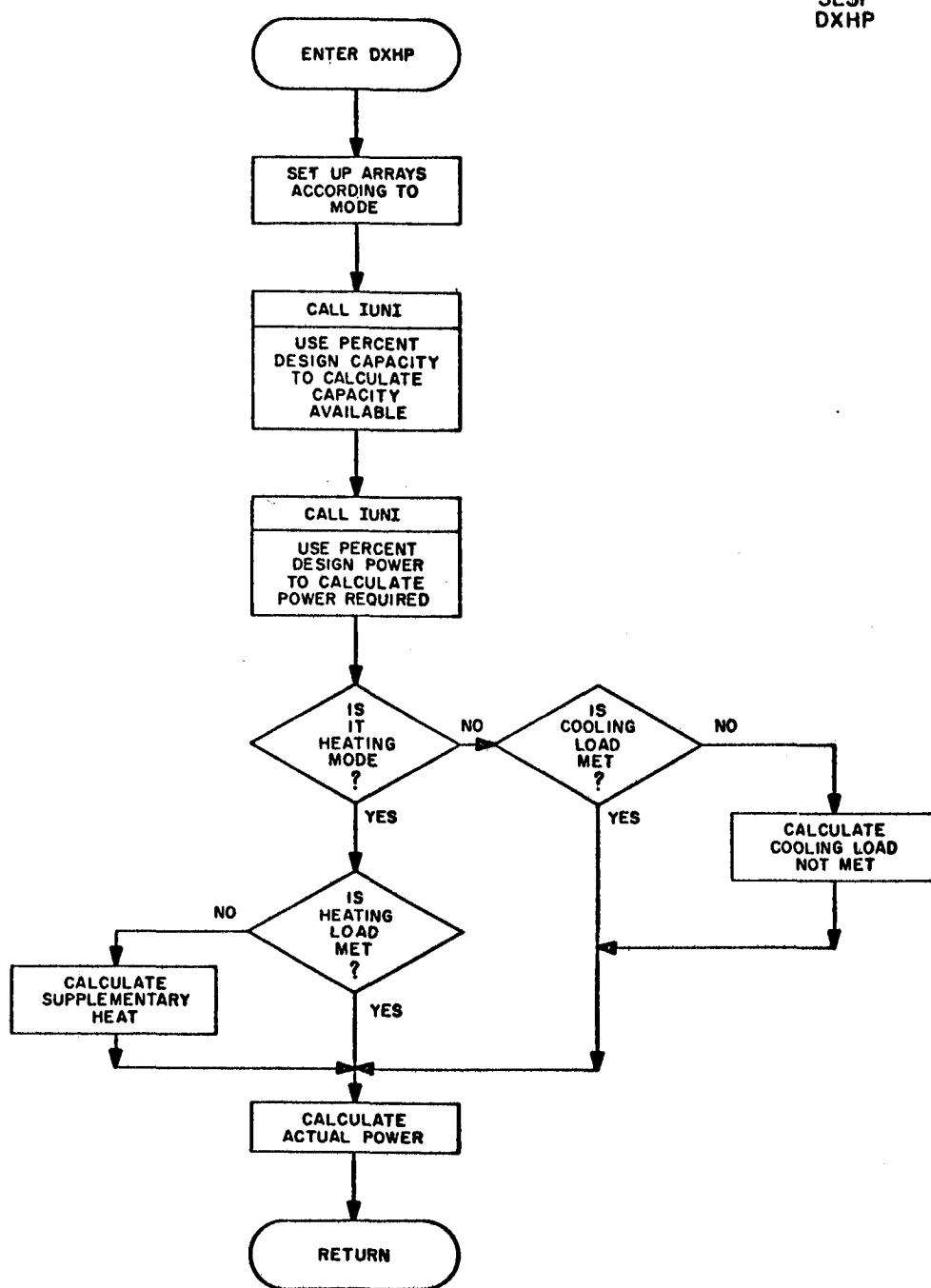


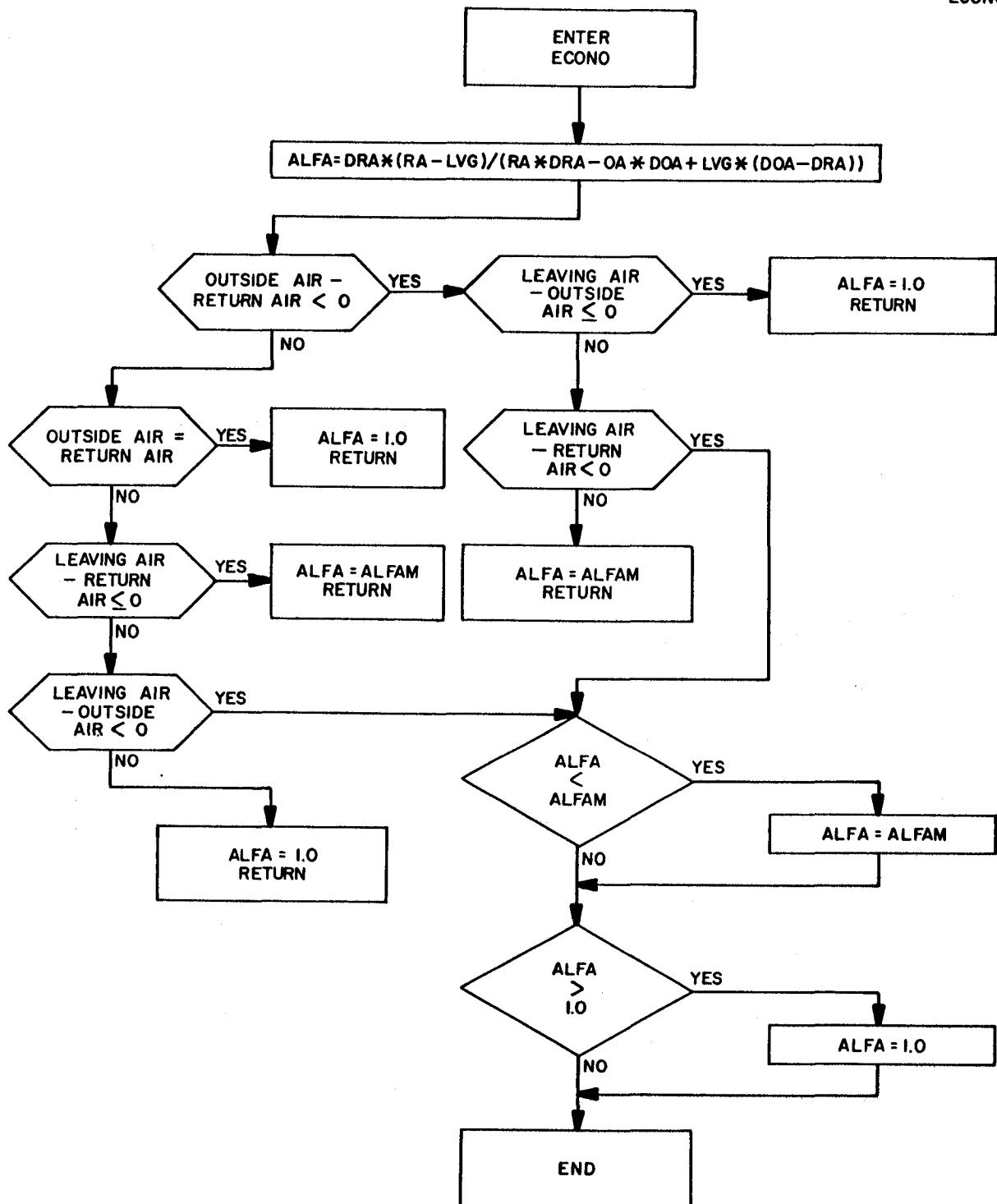


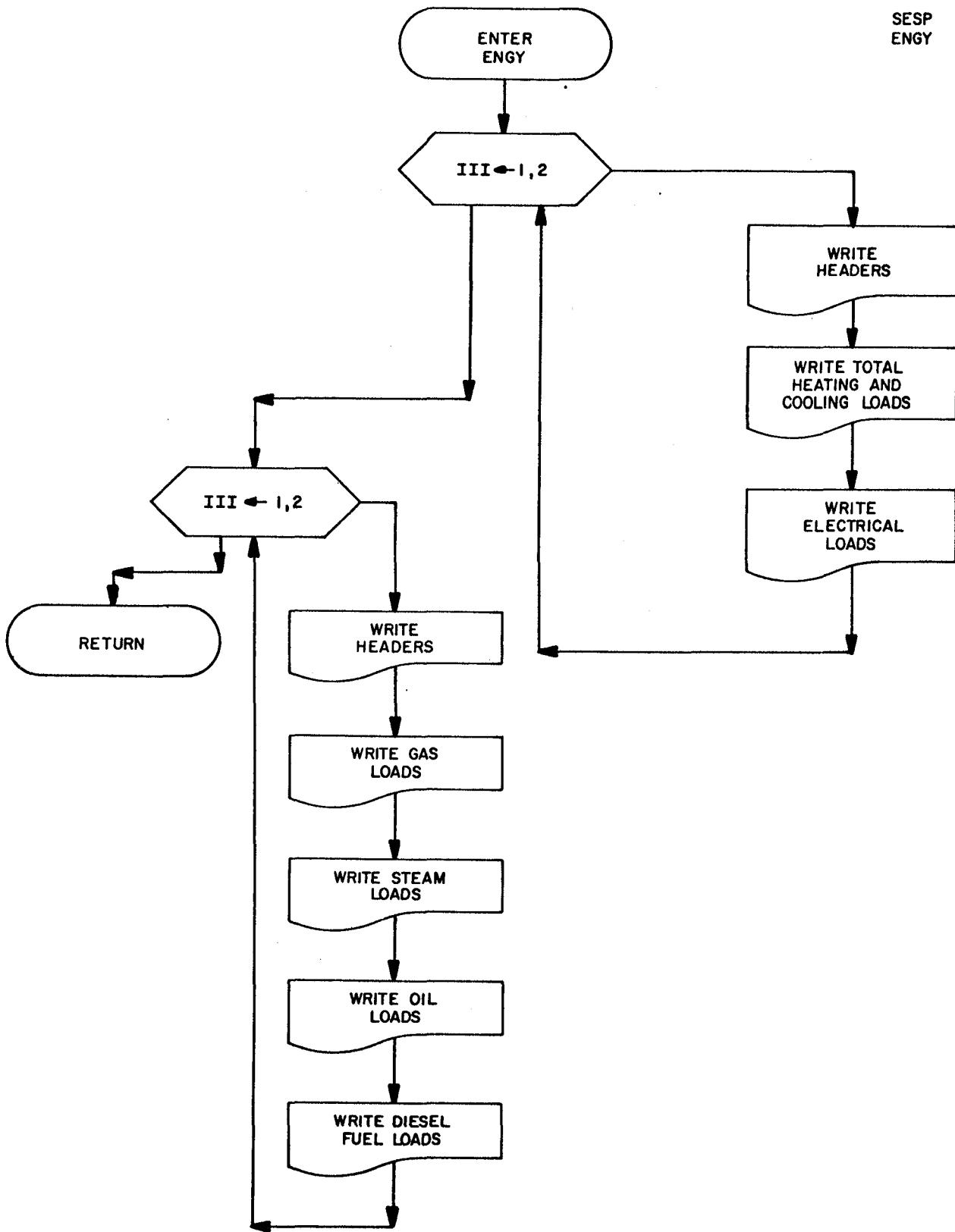
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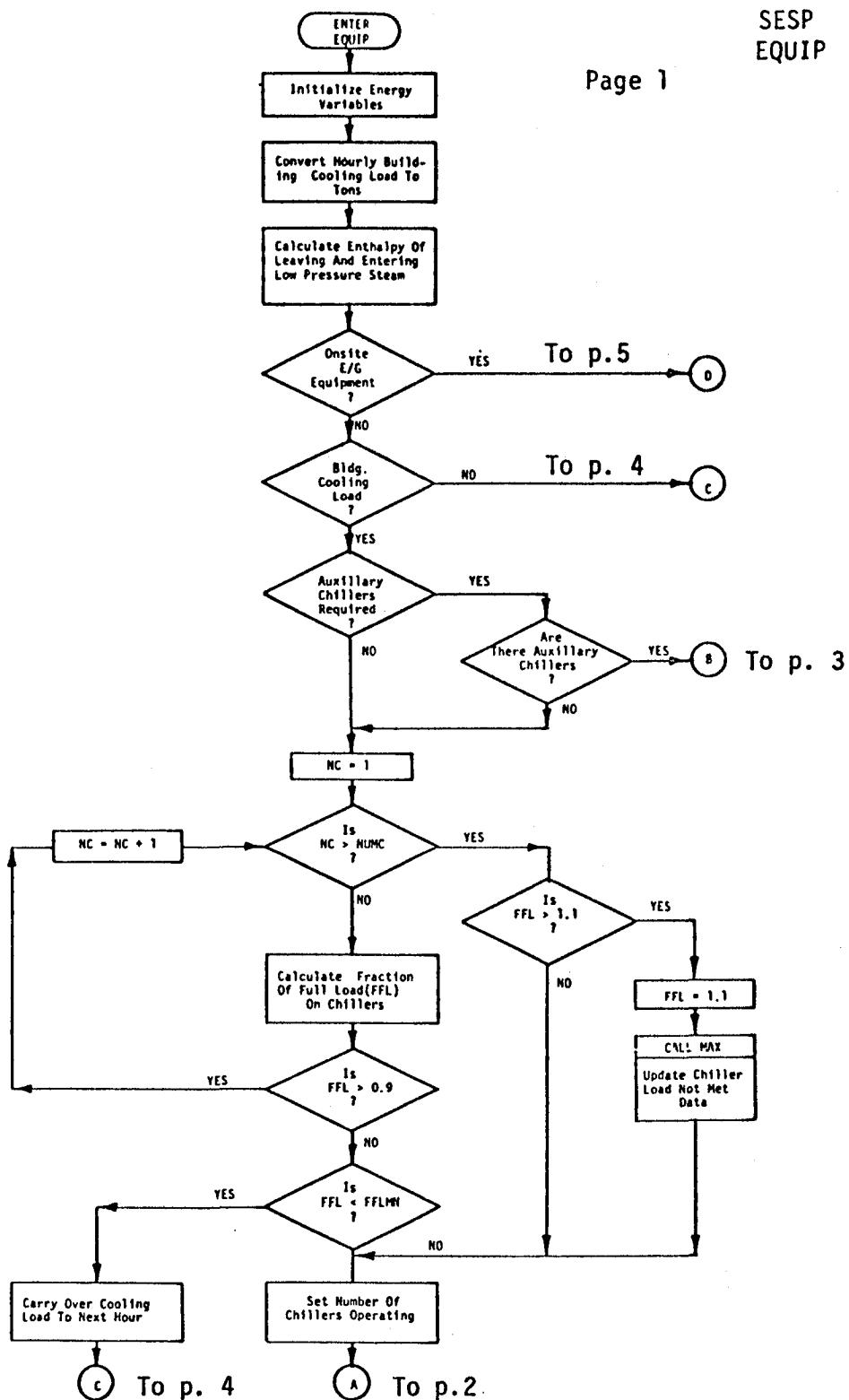








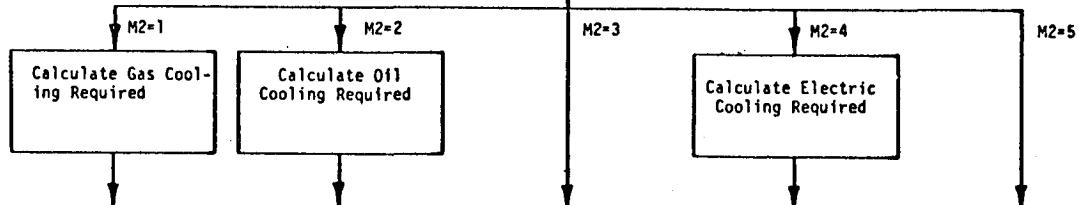
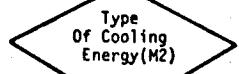
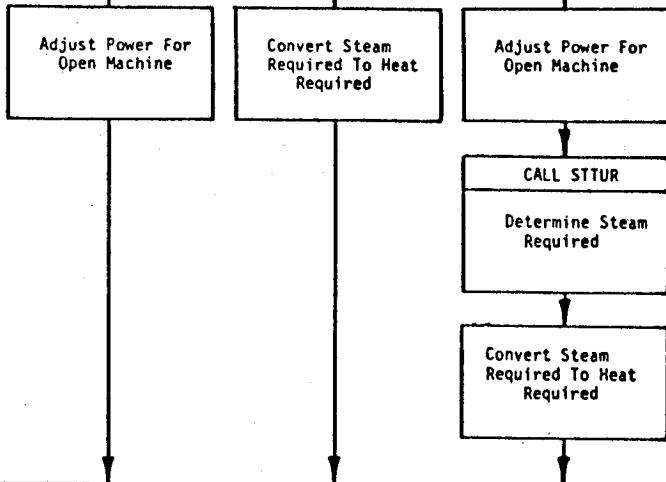
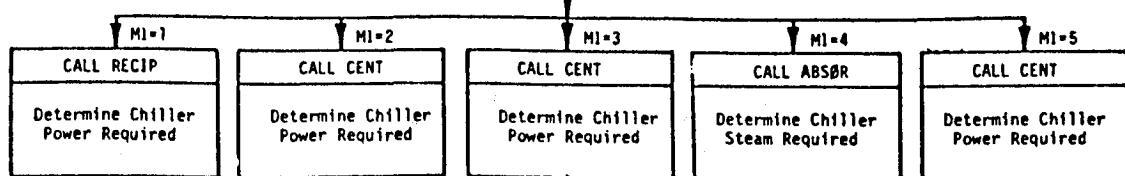
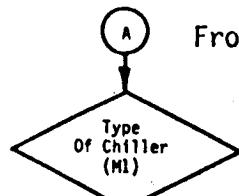




CONVENTIONAL COOLING SEGMENT

A

From p. 1

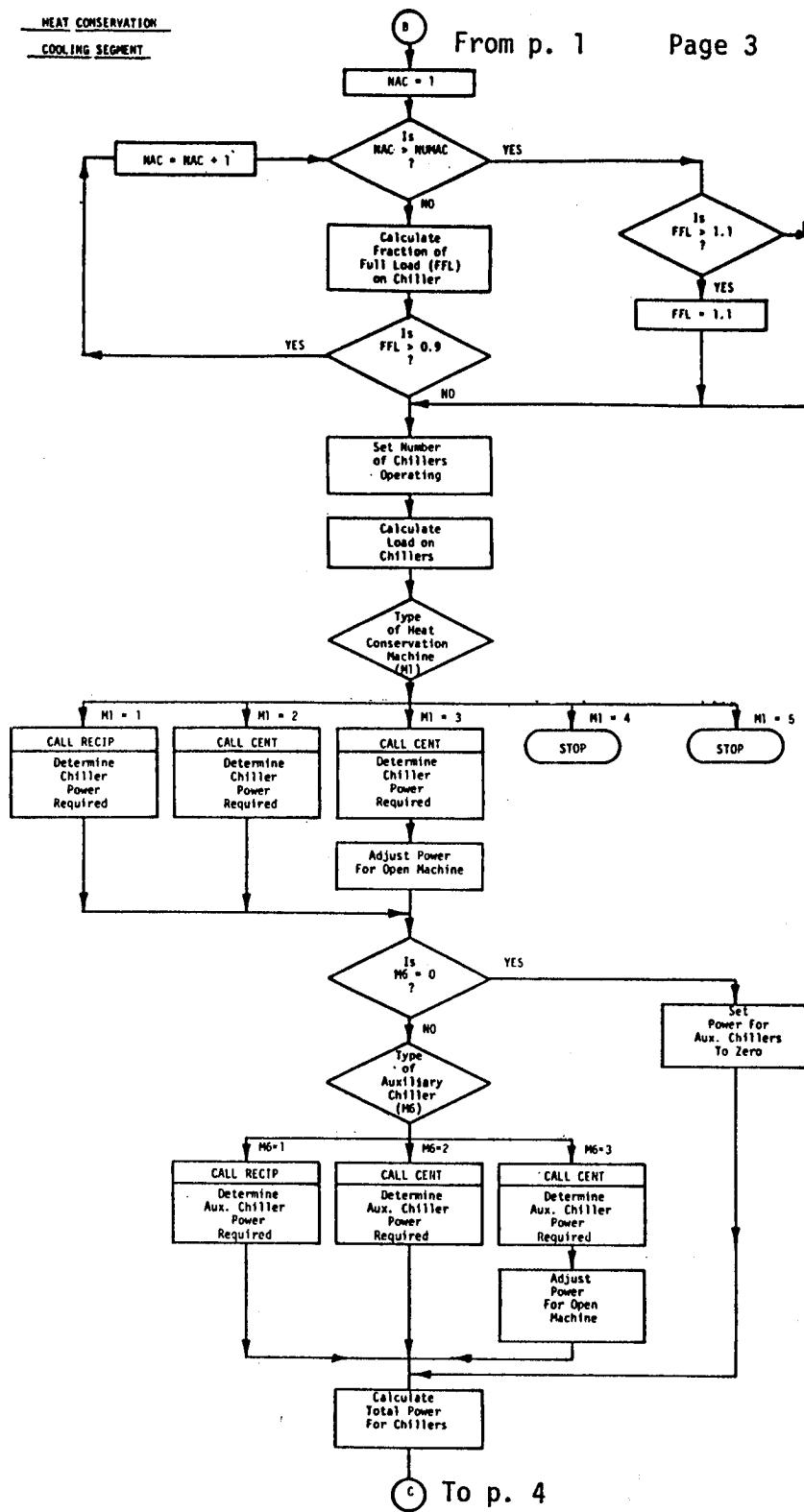


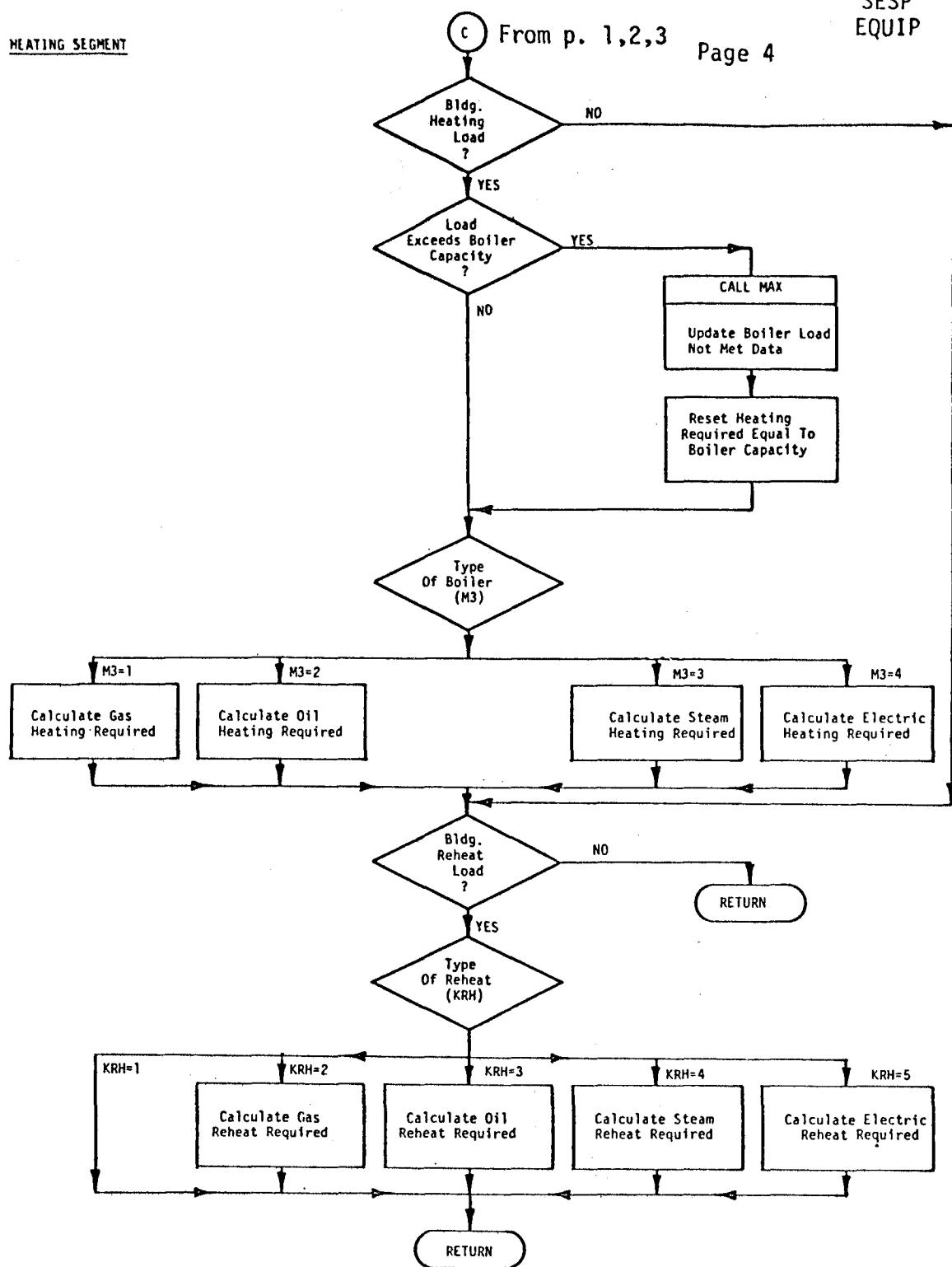
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To p. 4

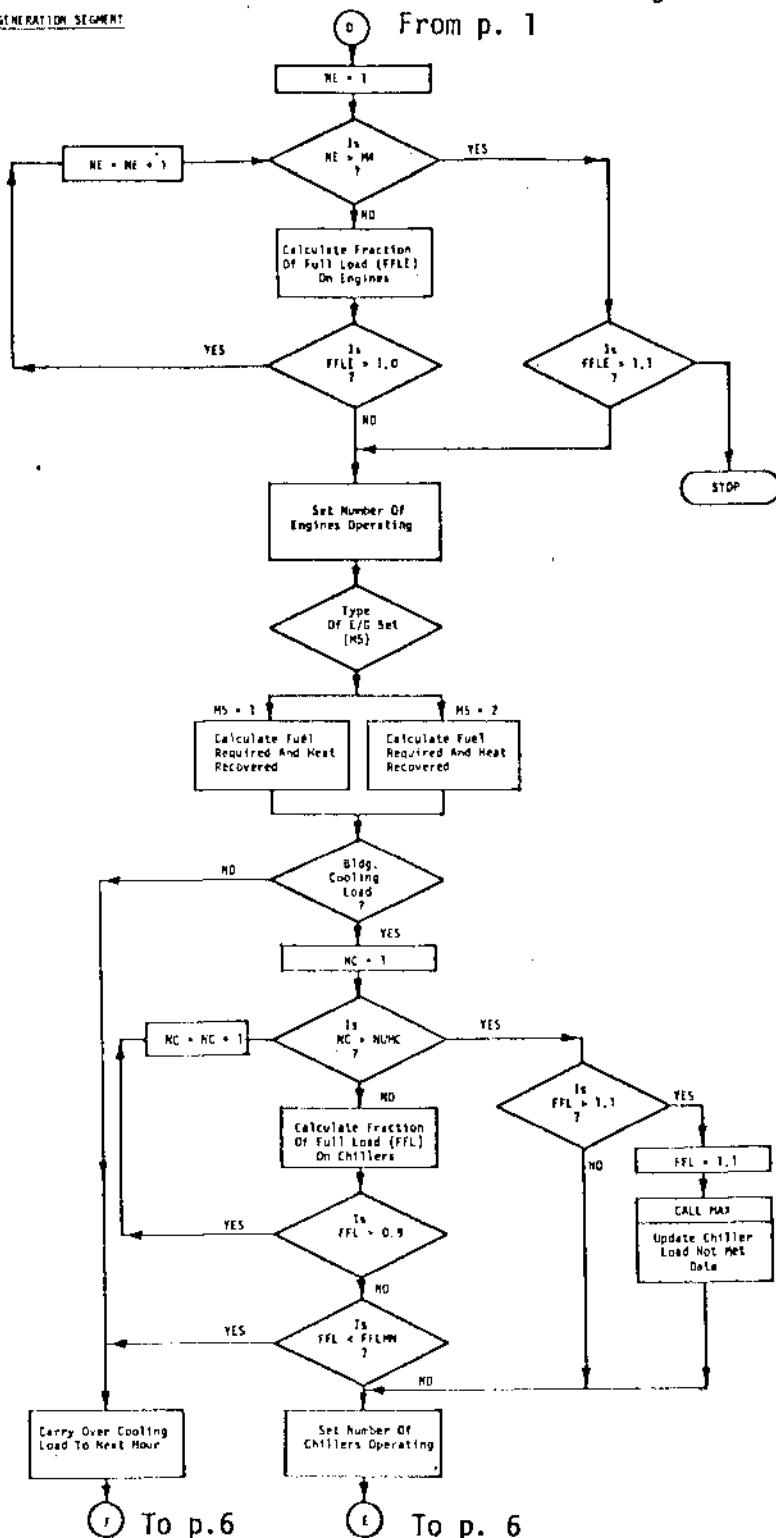
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Page 3



HEATING SEGMENT

## ON-SITE GENERATION SEGMENT

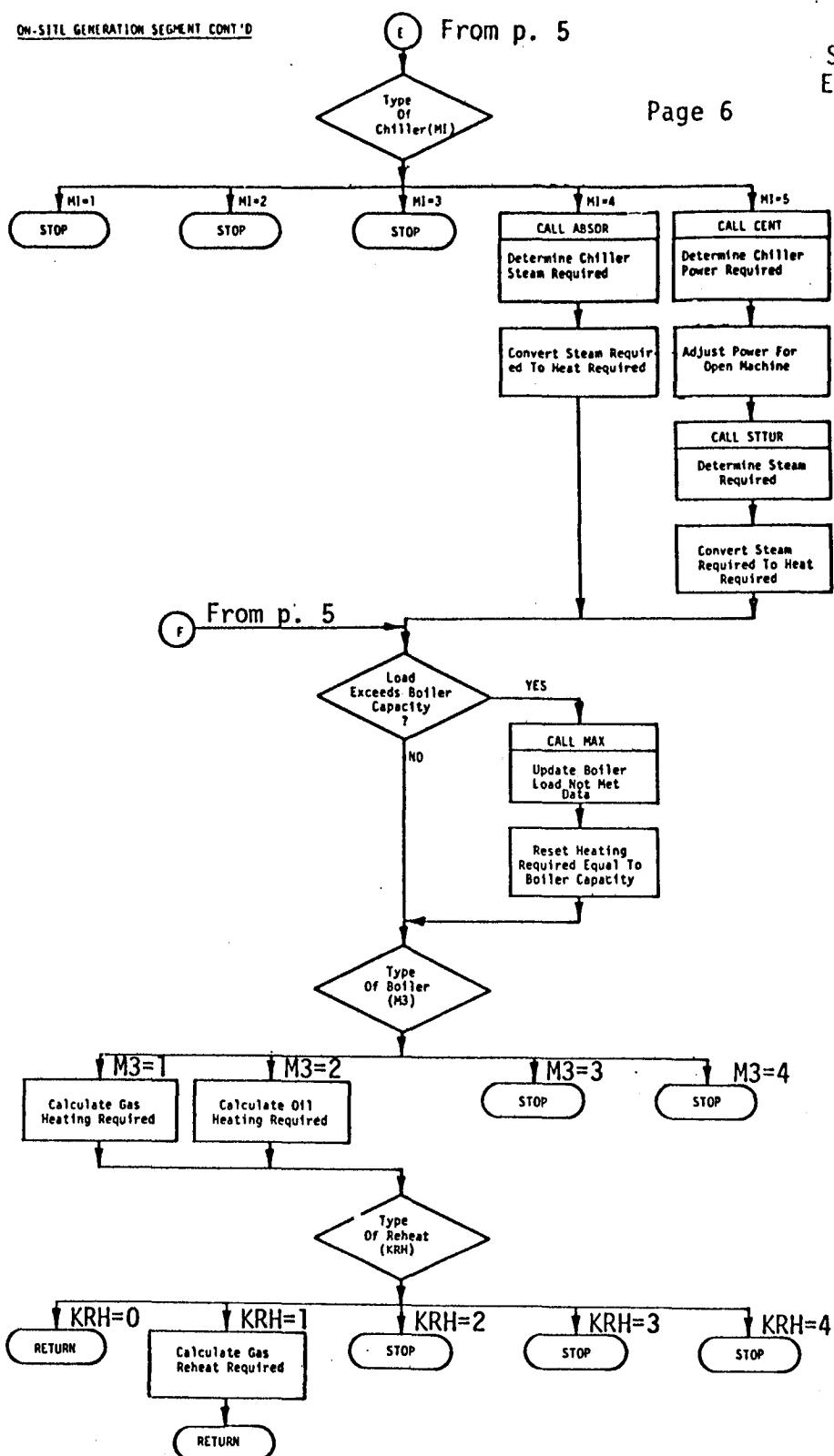


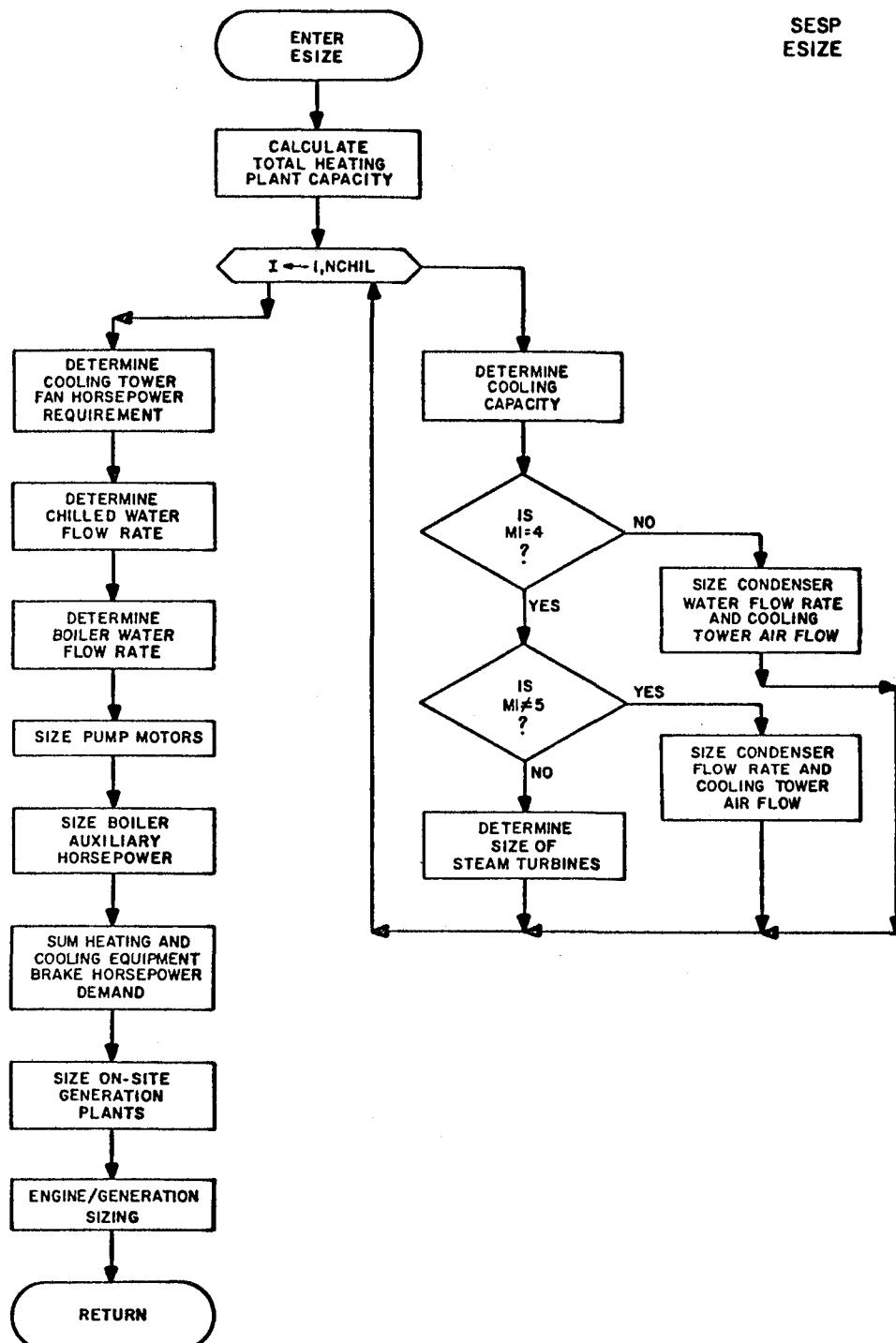
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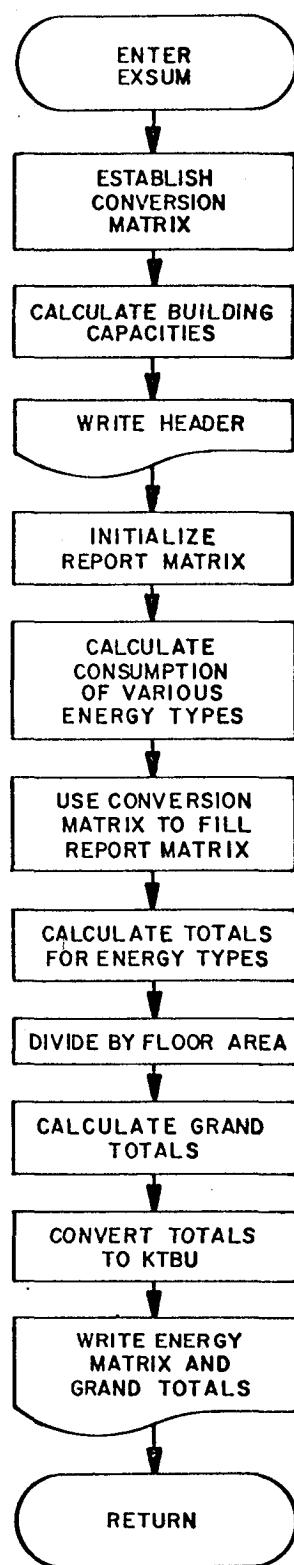
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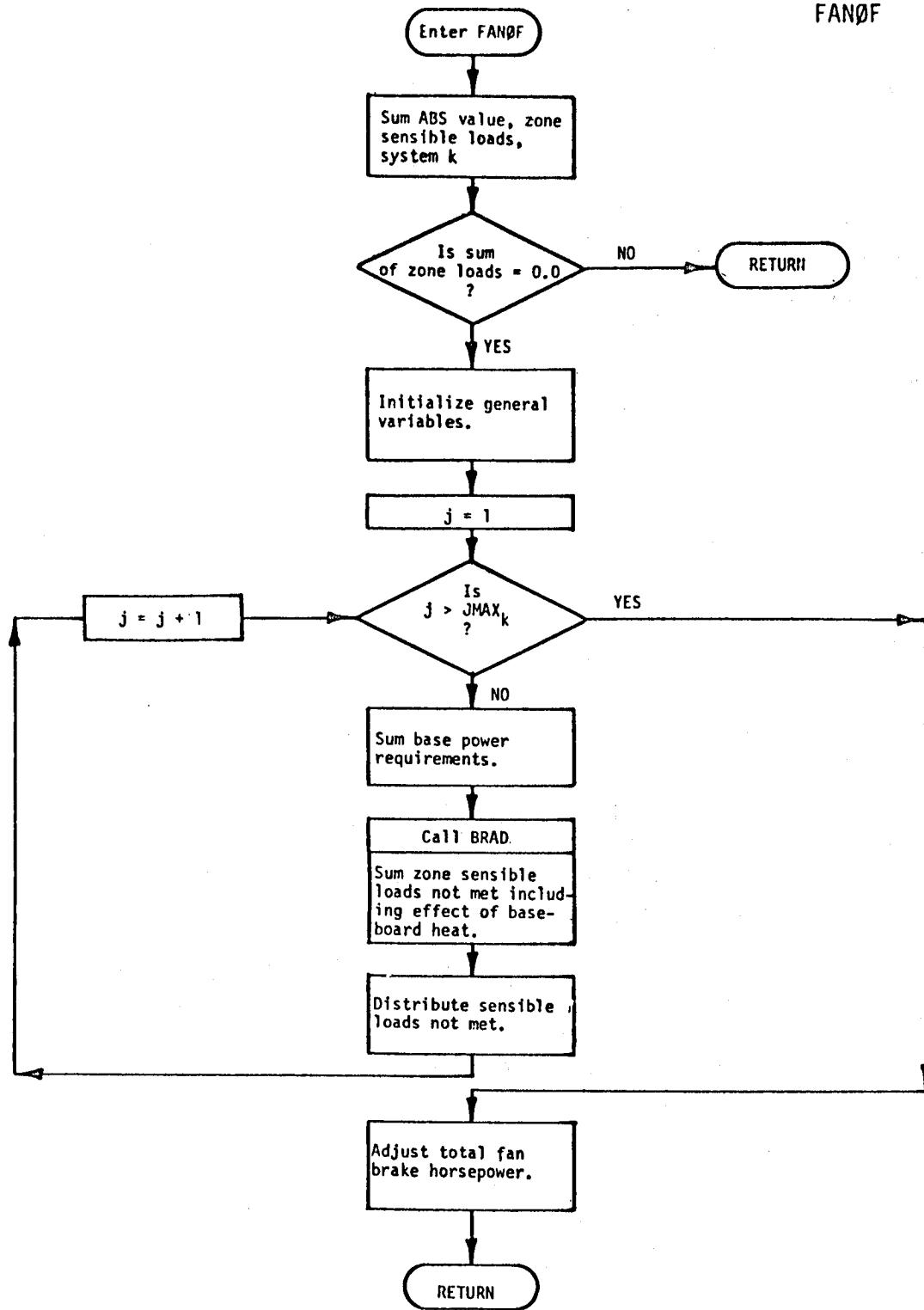
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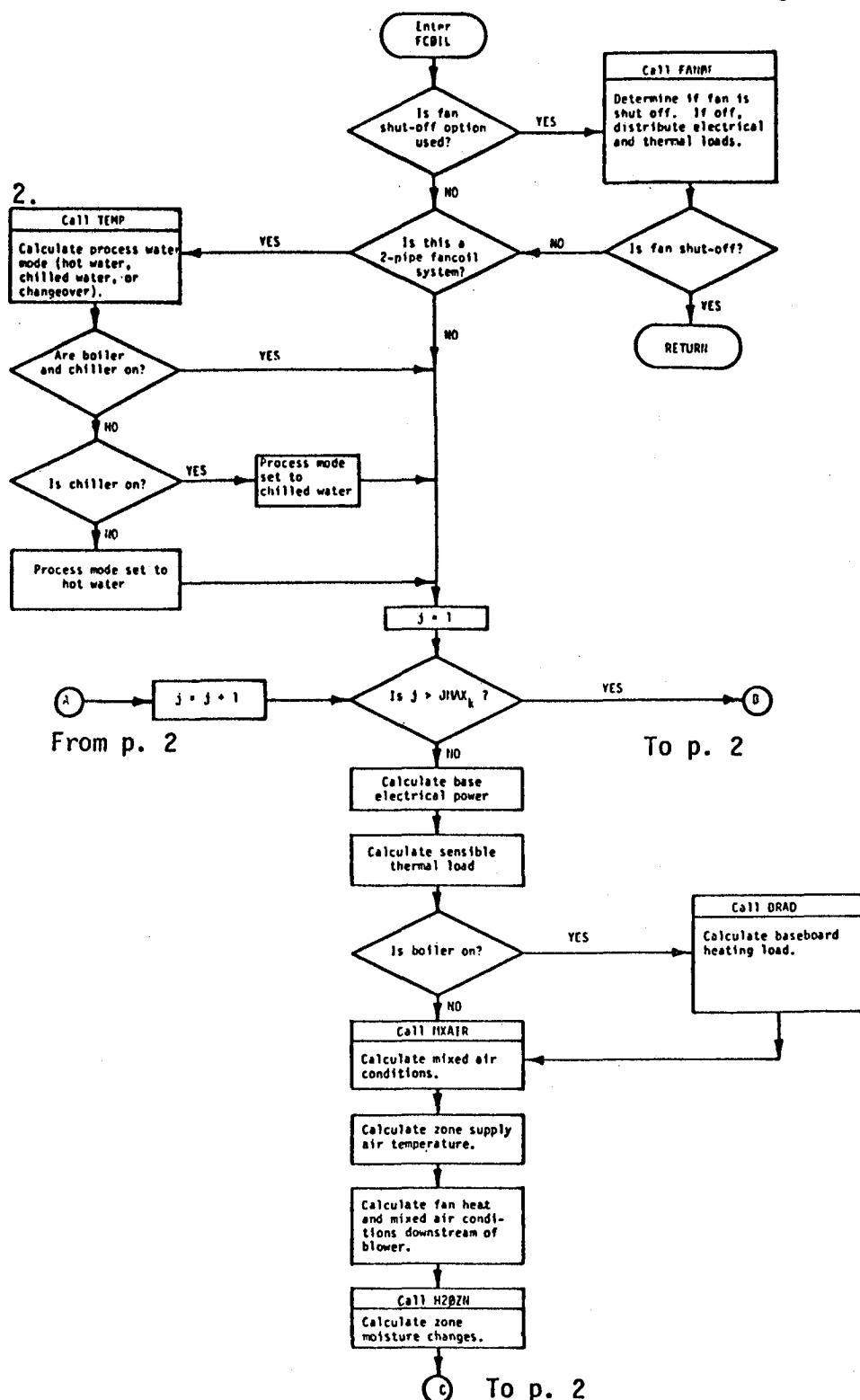


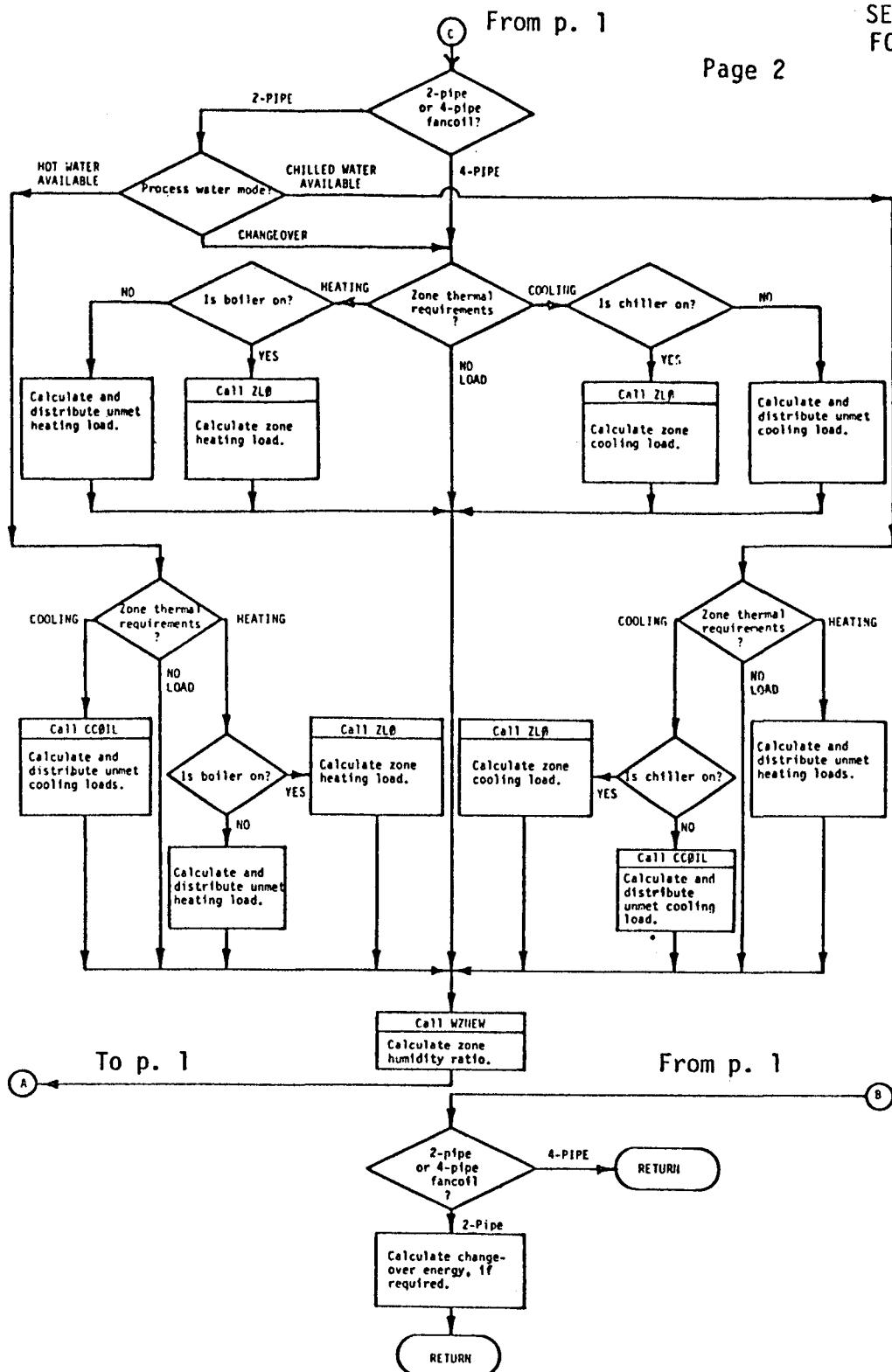


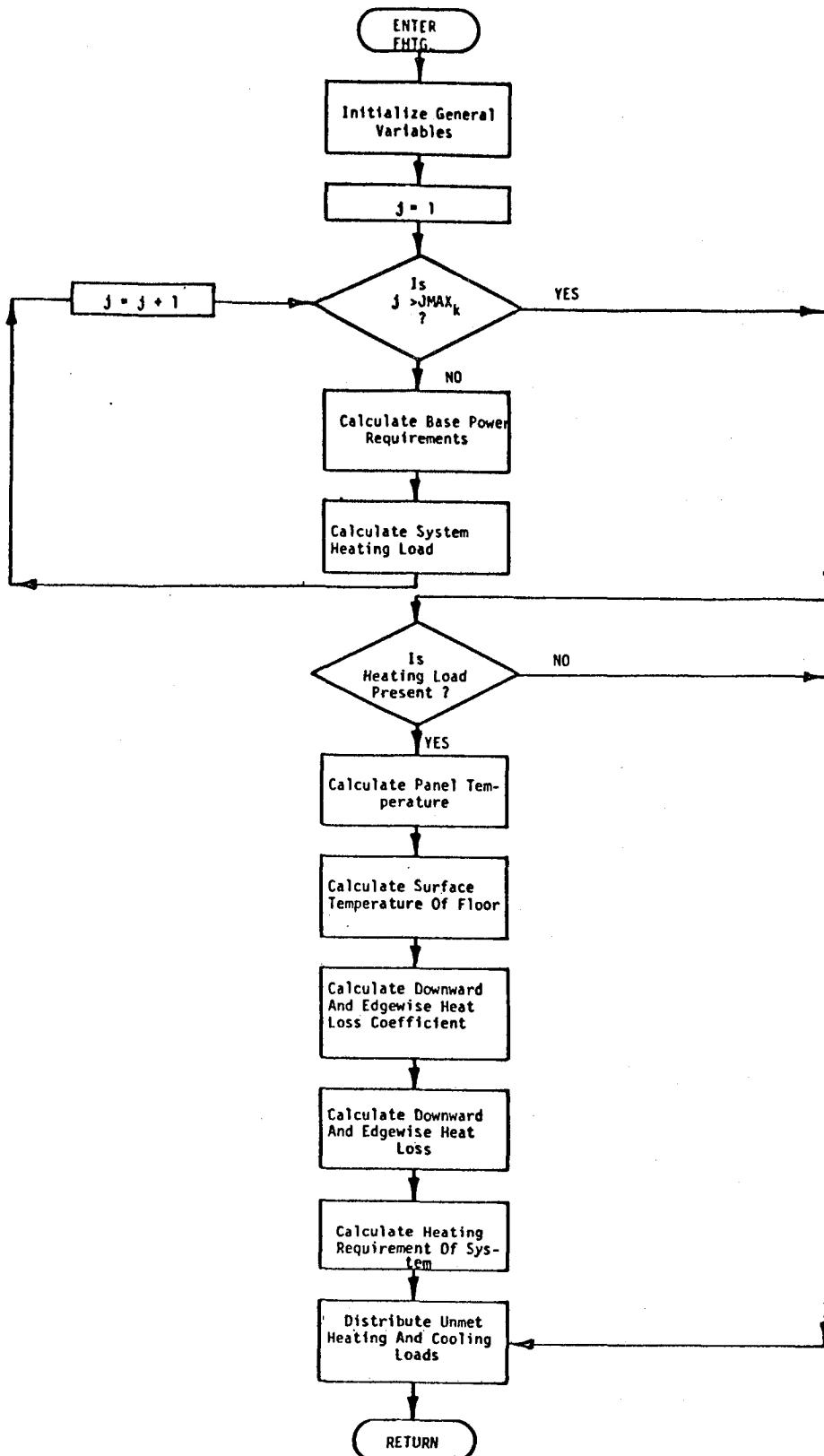


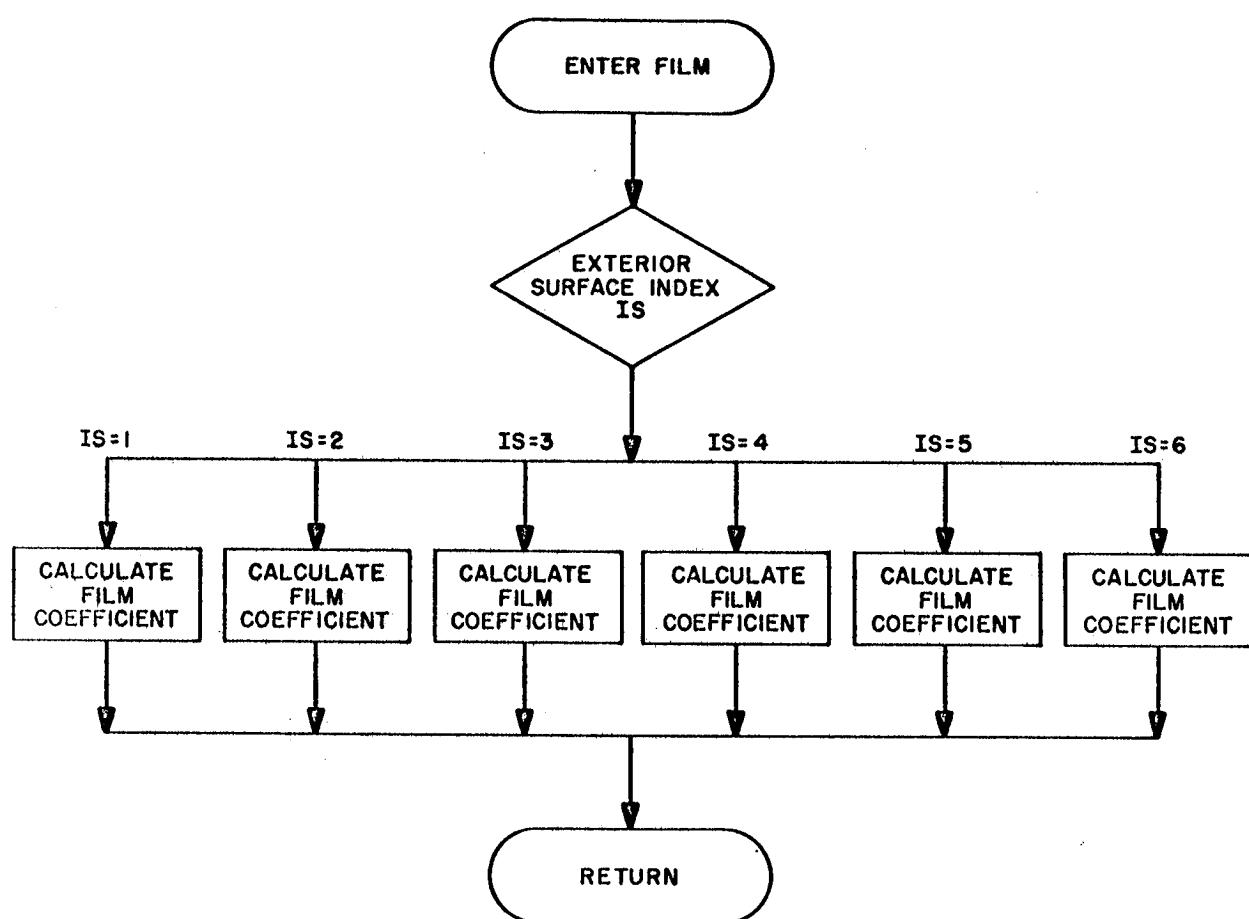
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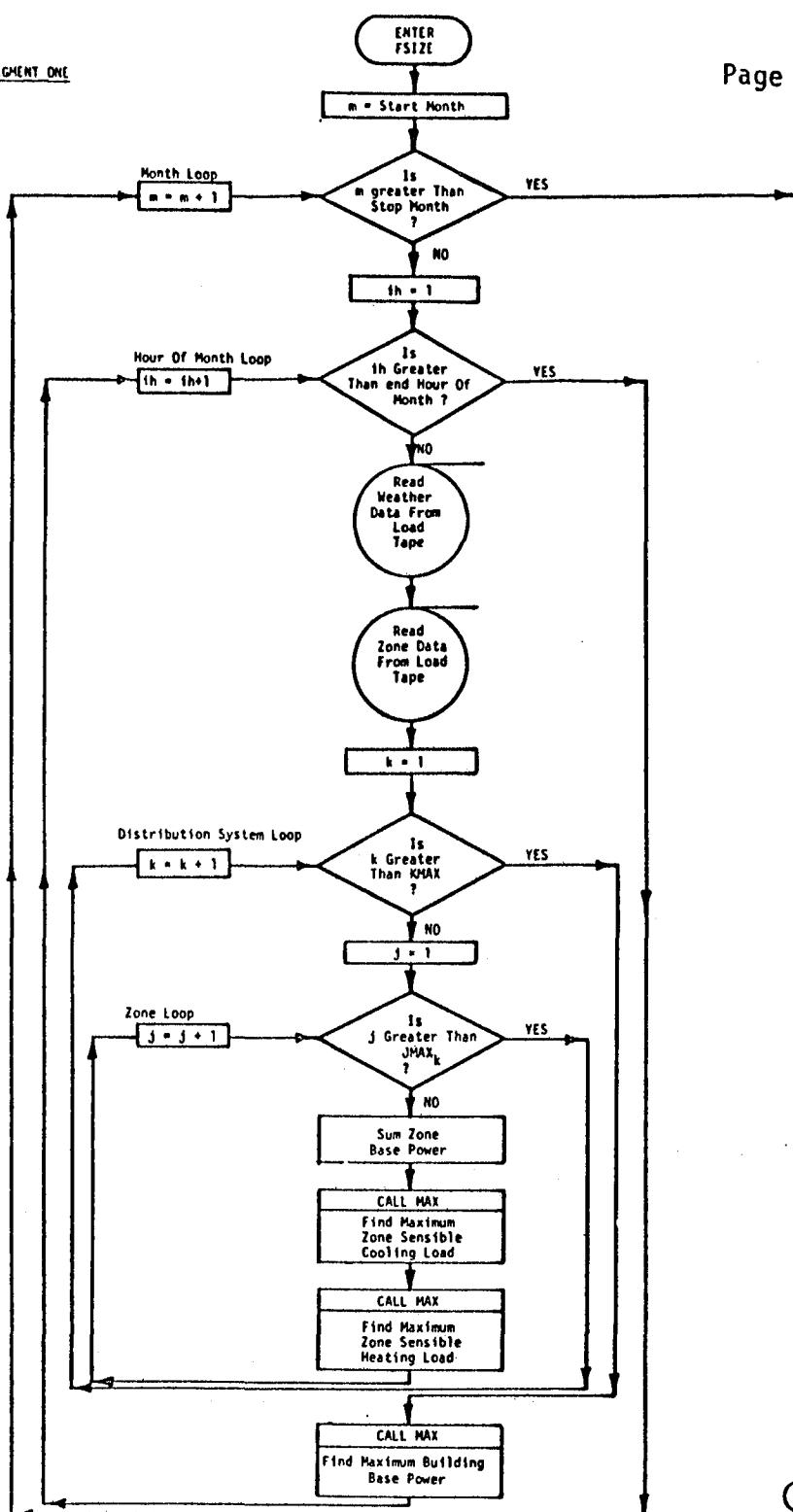










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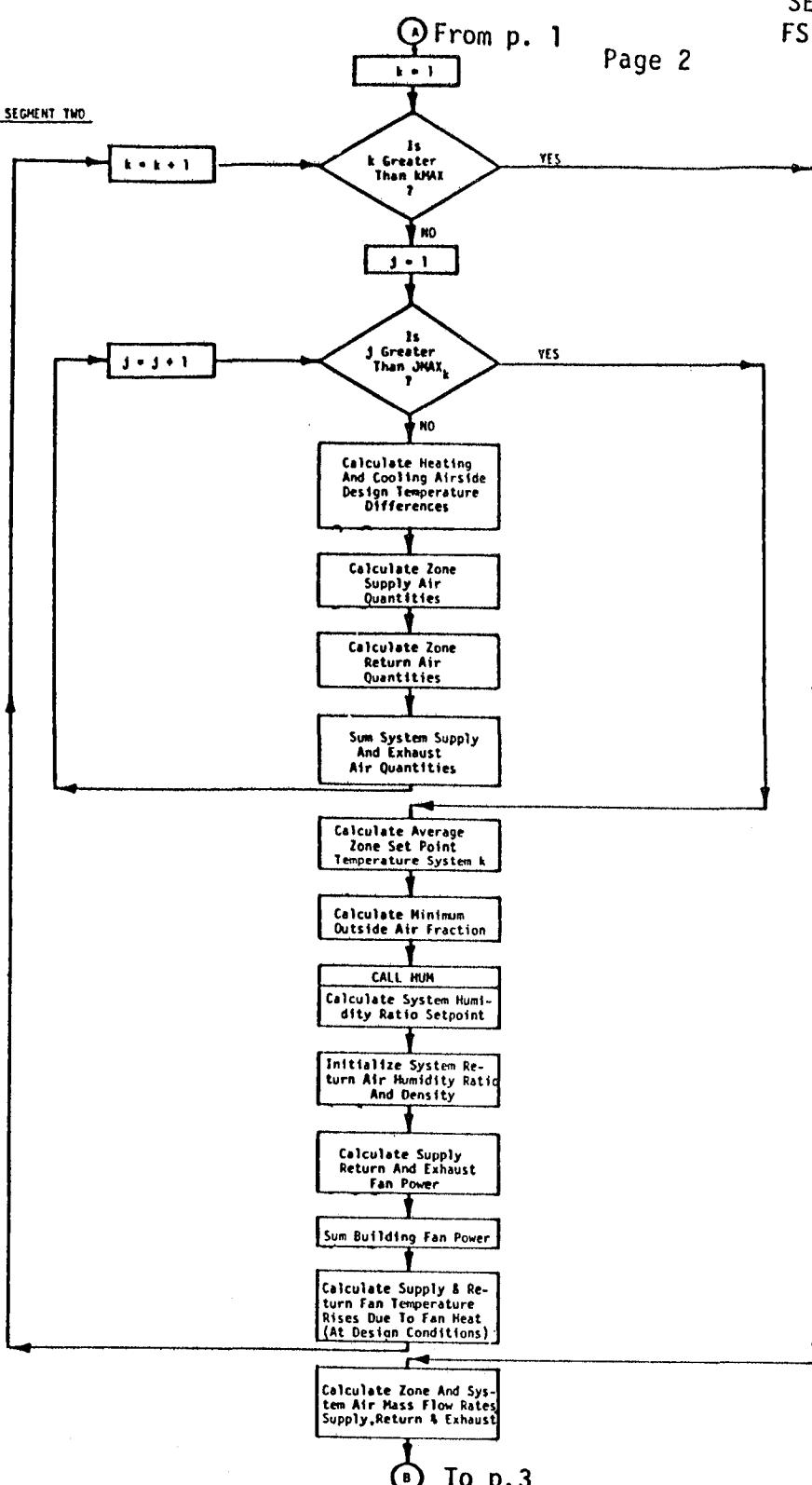
(A) To p. 2

SESP  
FSIZE

Page 2

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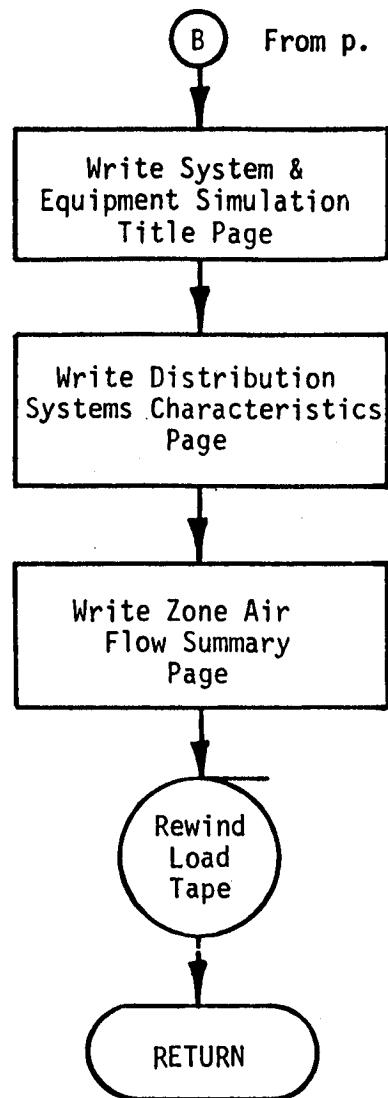
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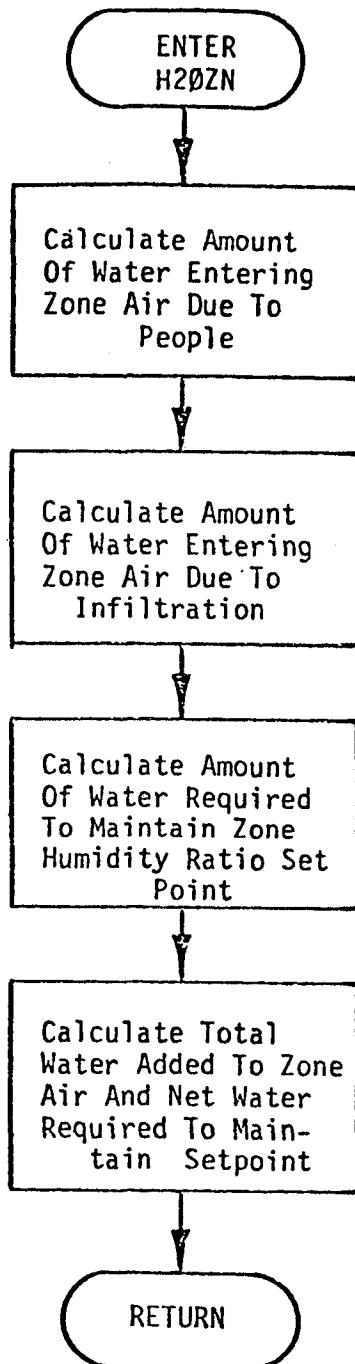


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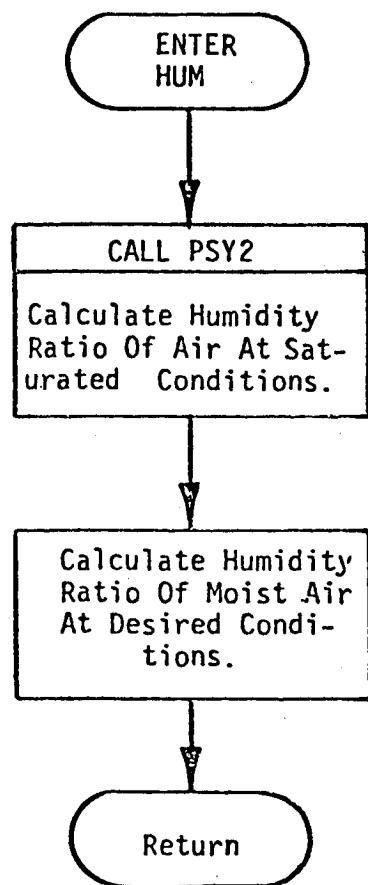
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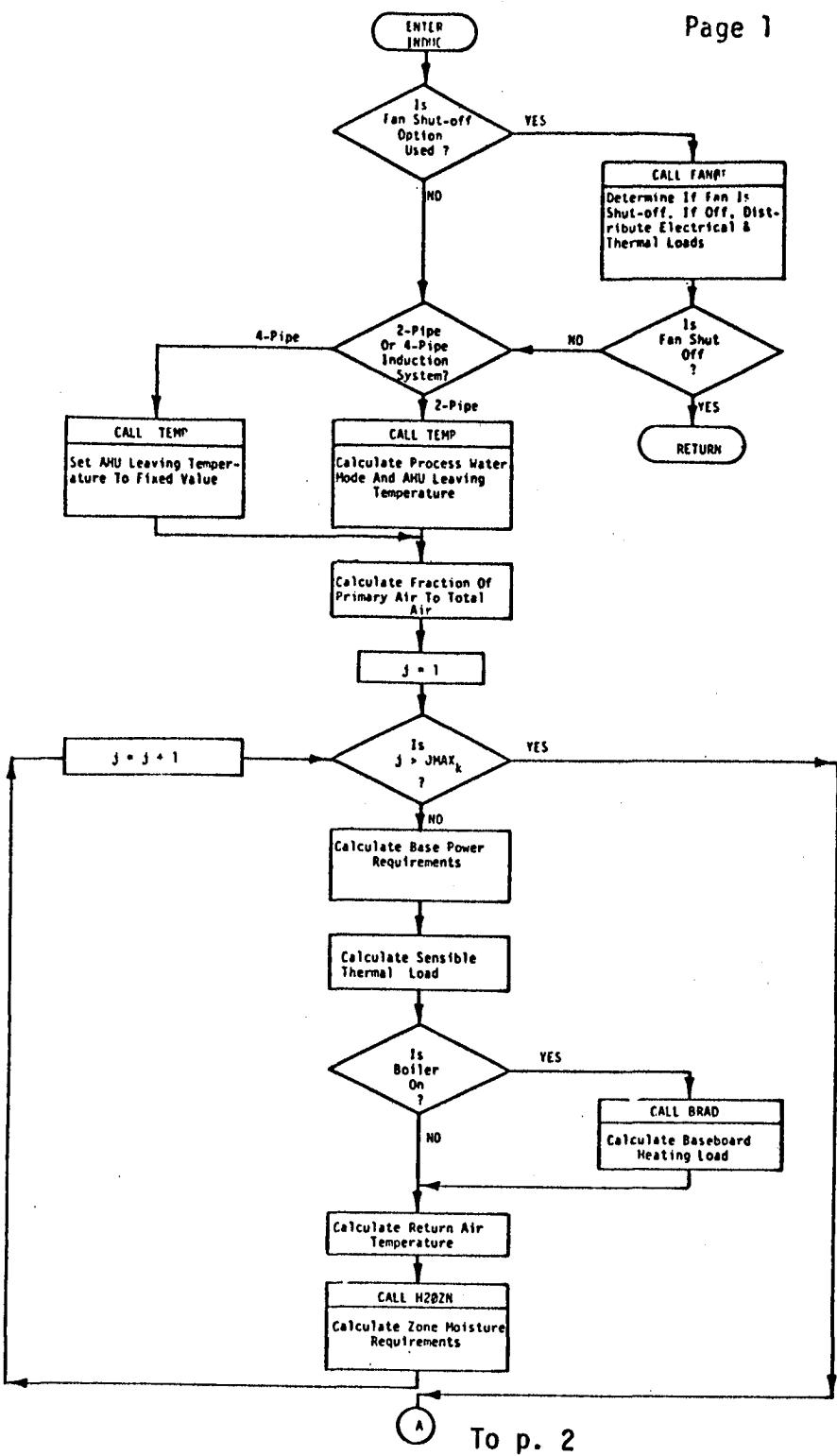
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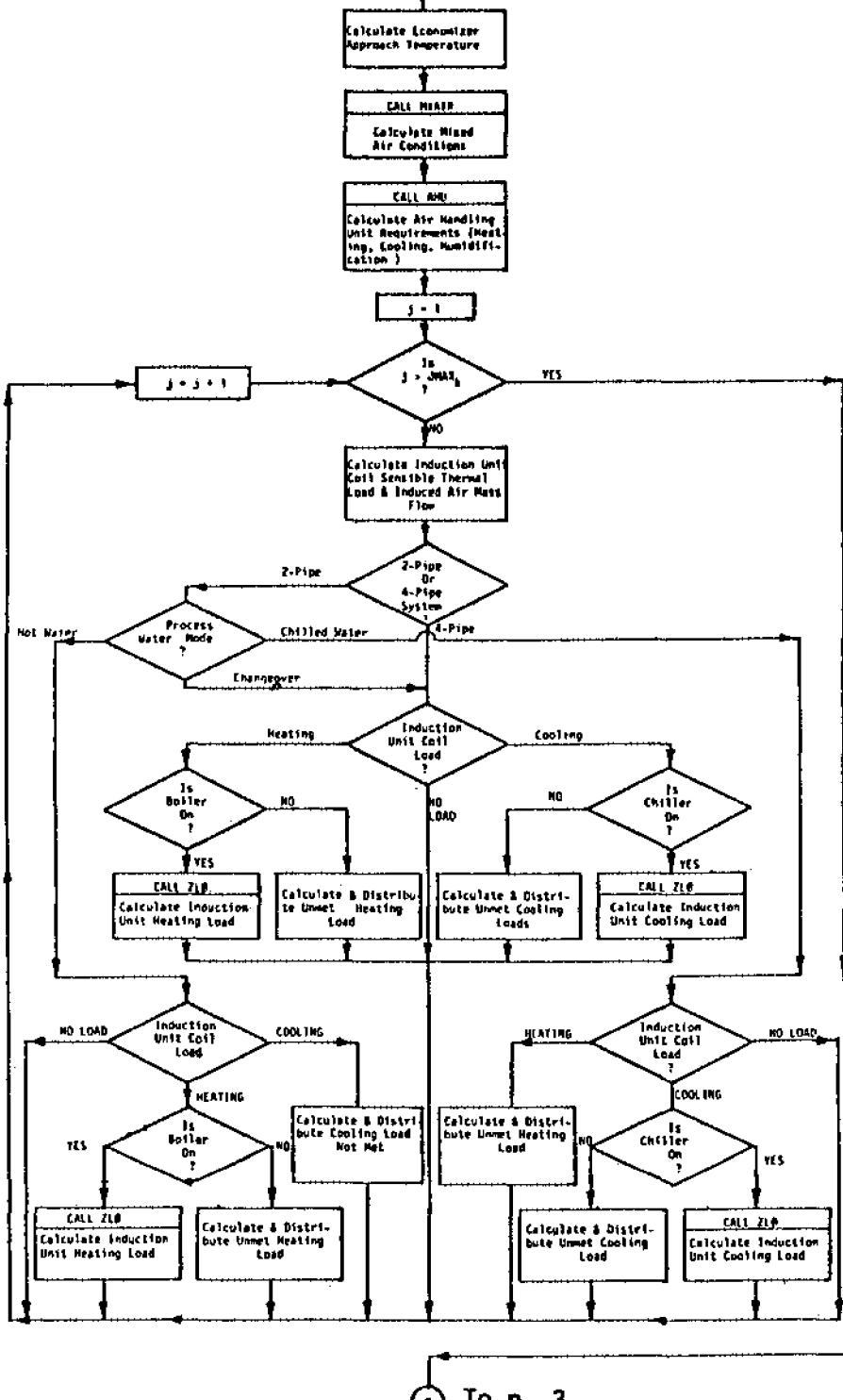


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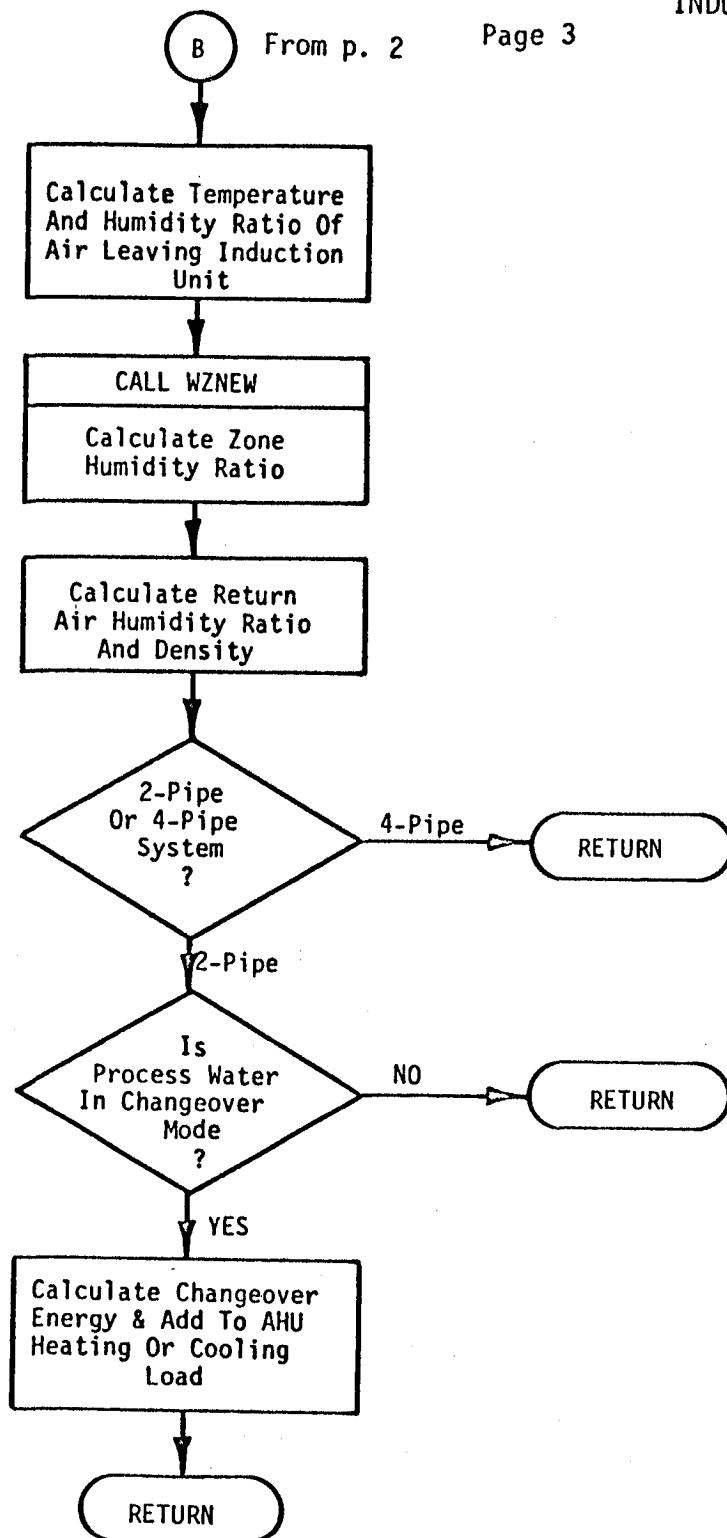




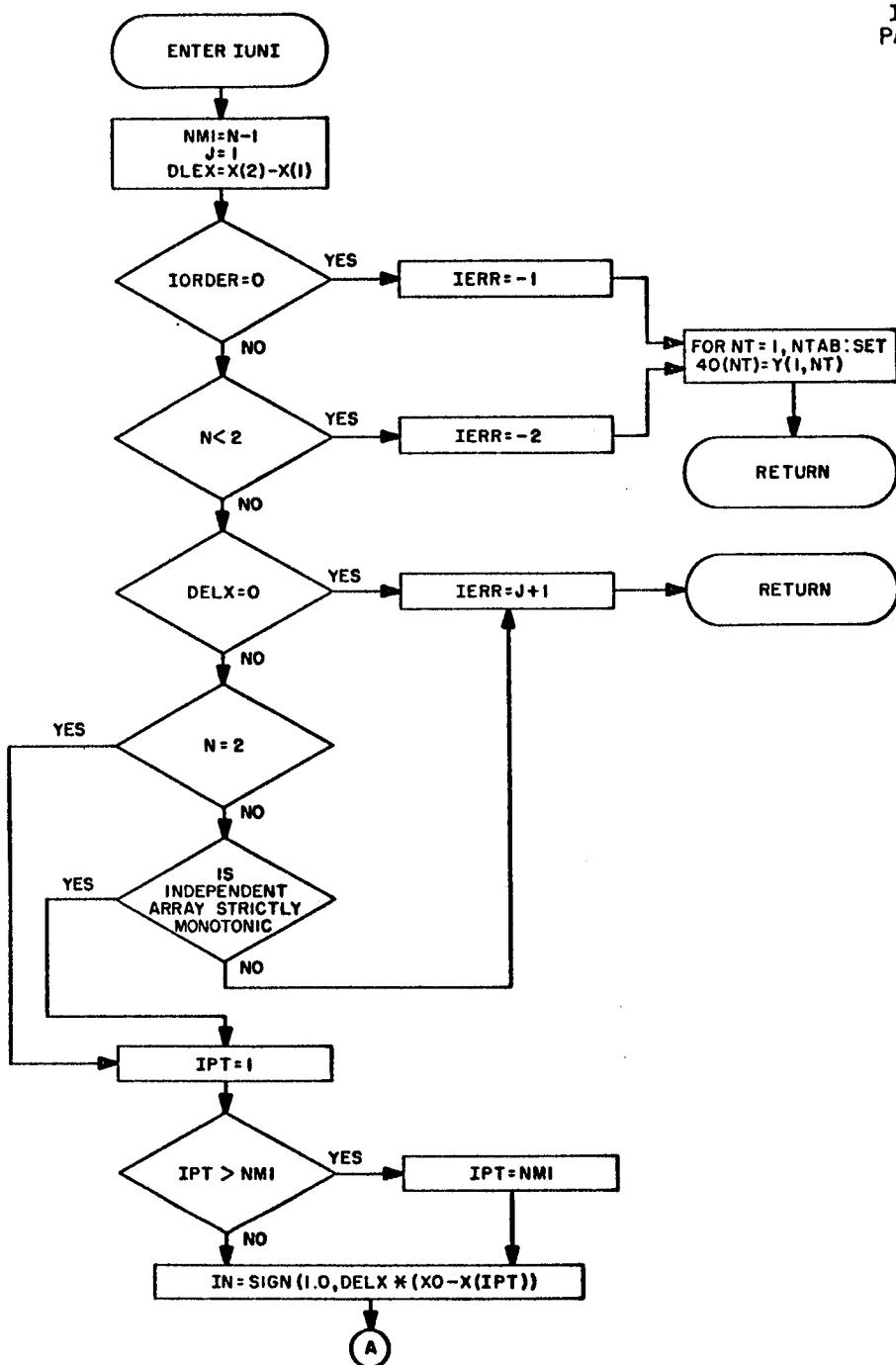
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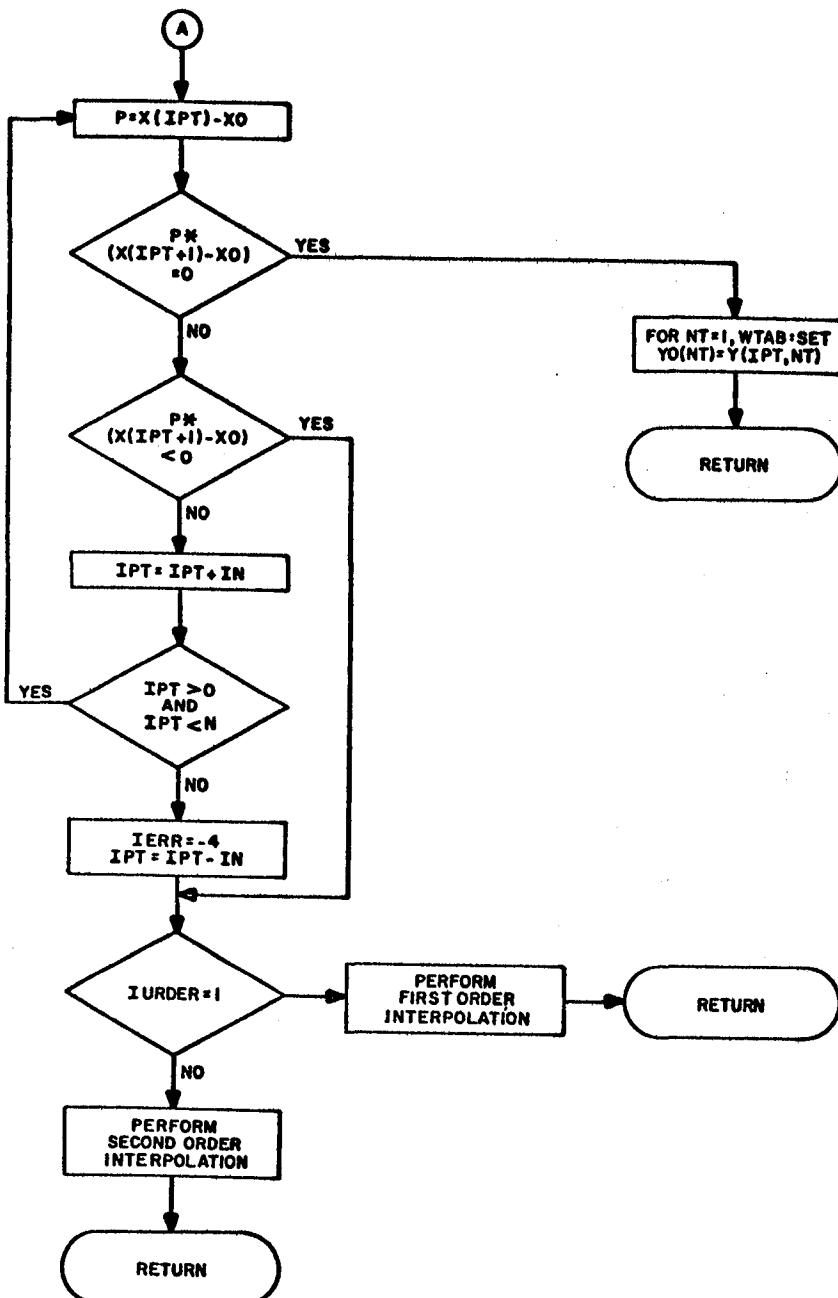


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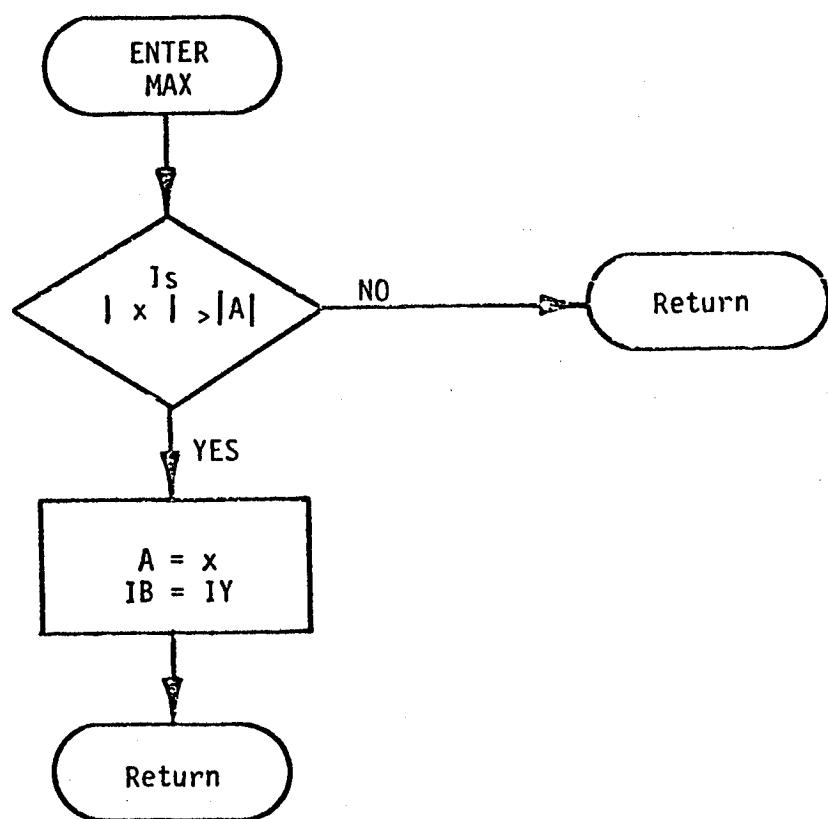


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PAGE 1

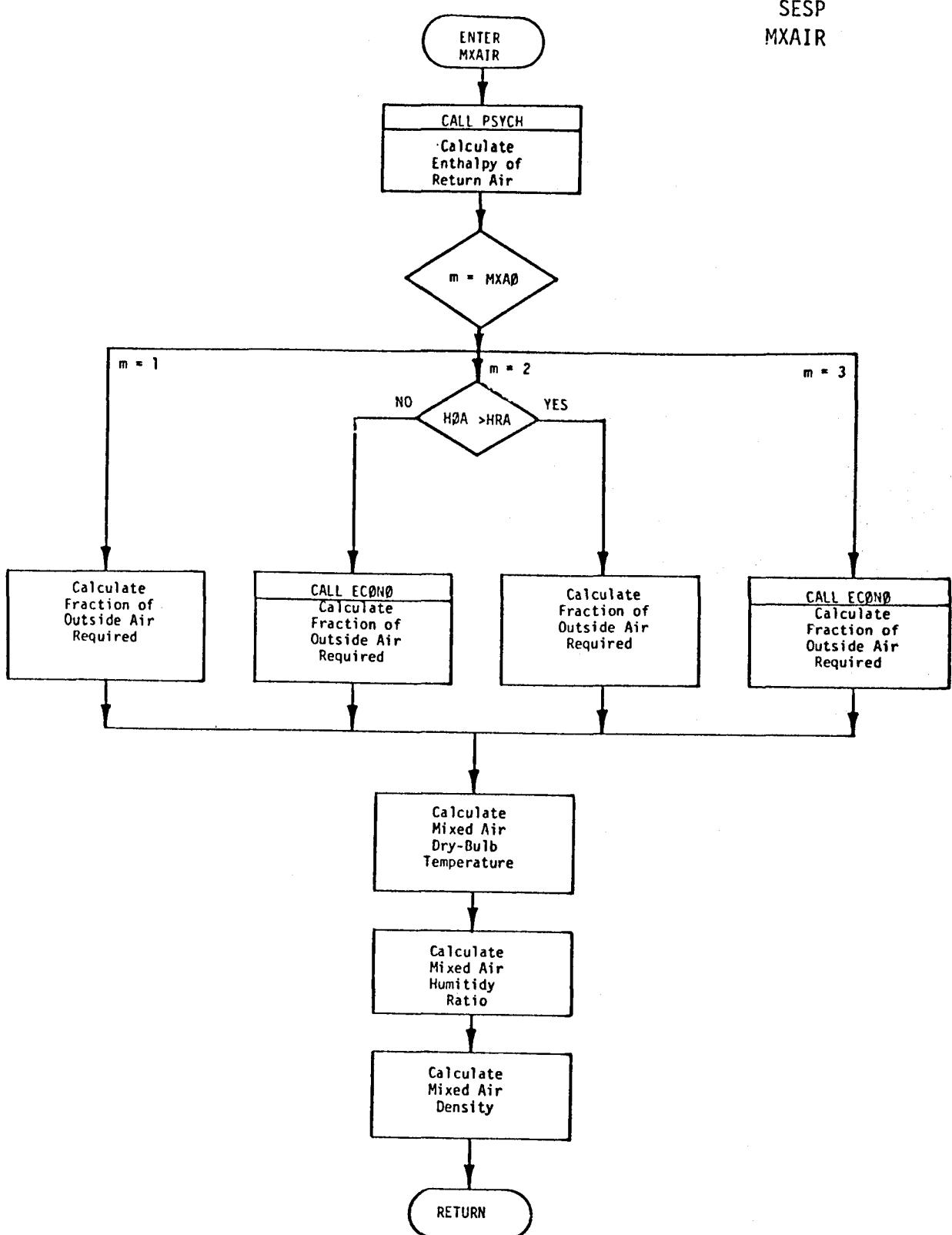


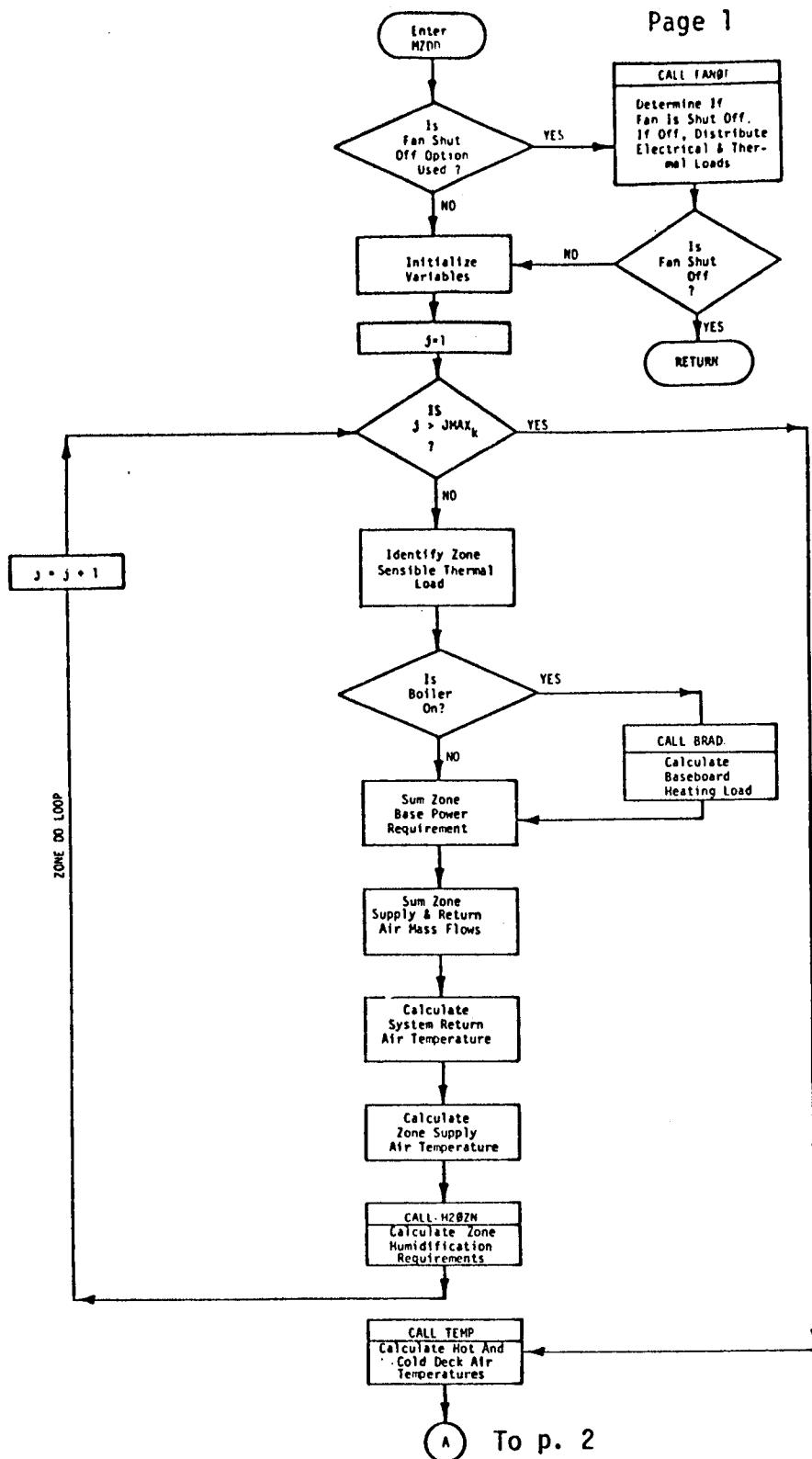


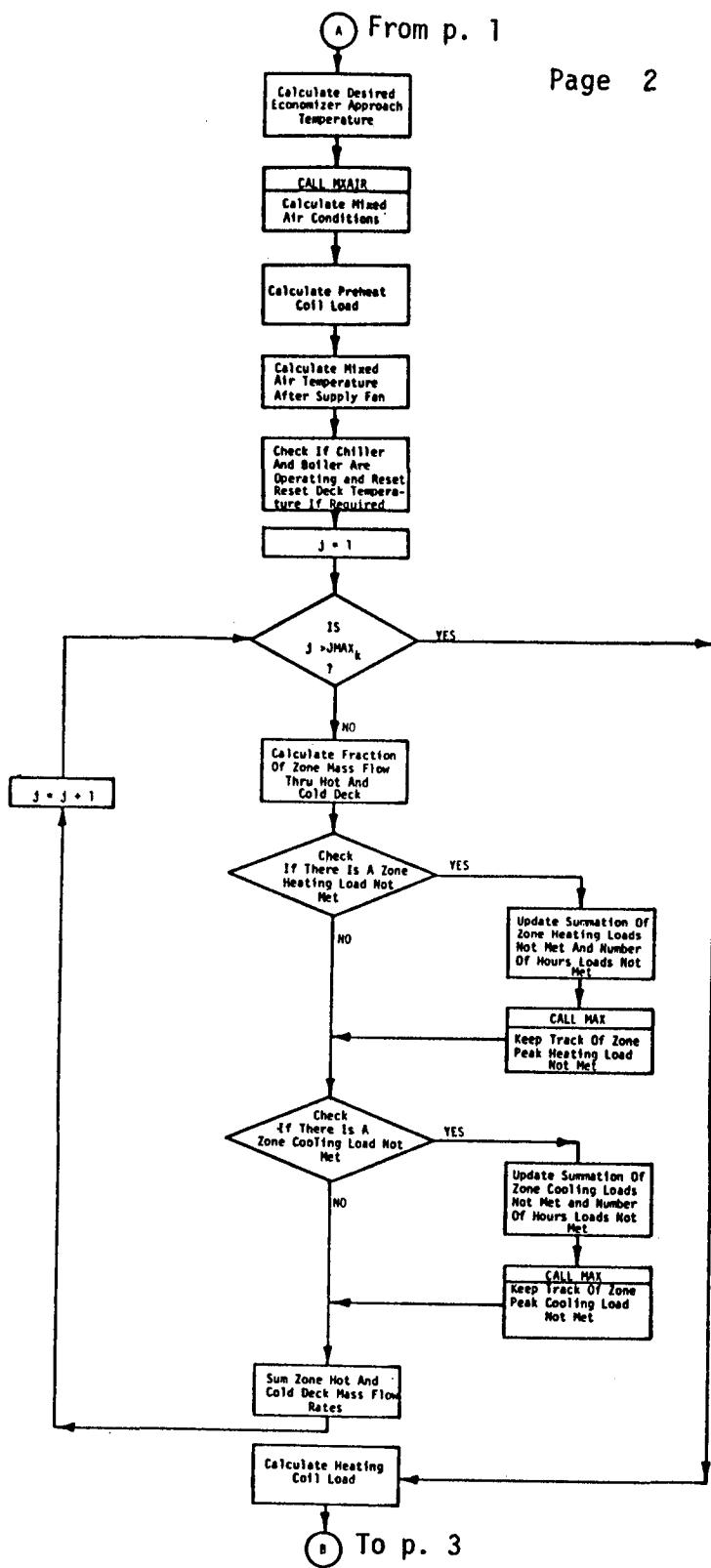
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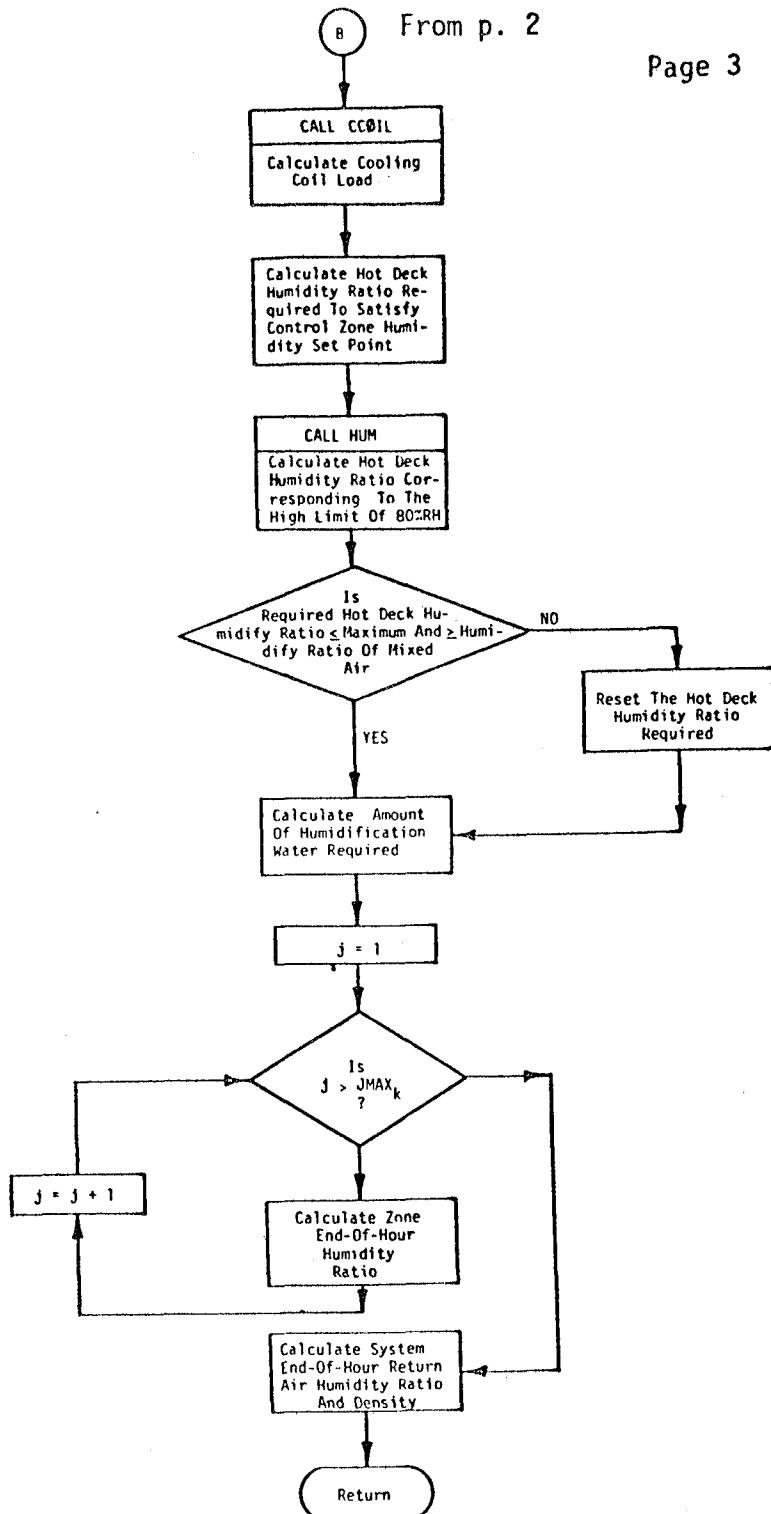




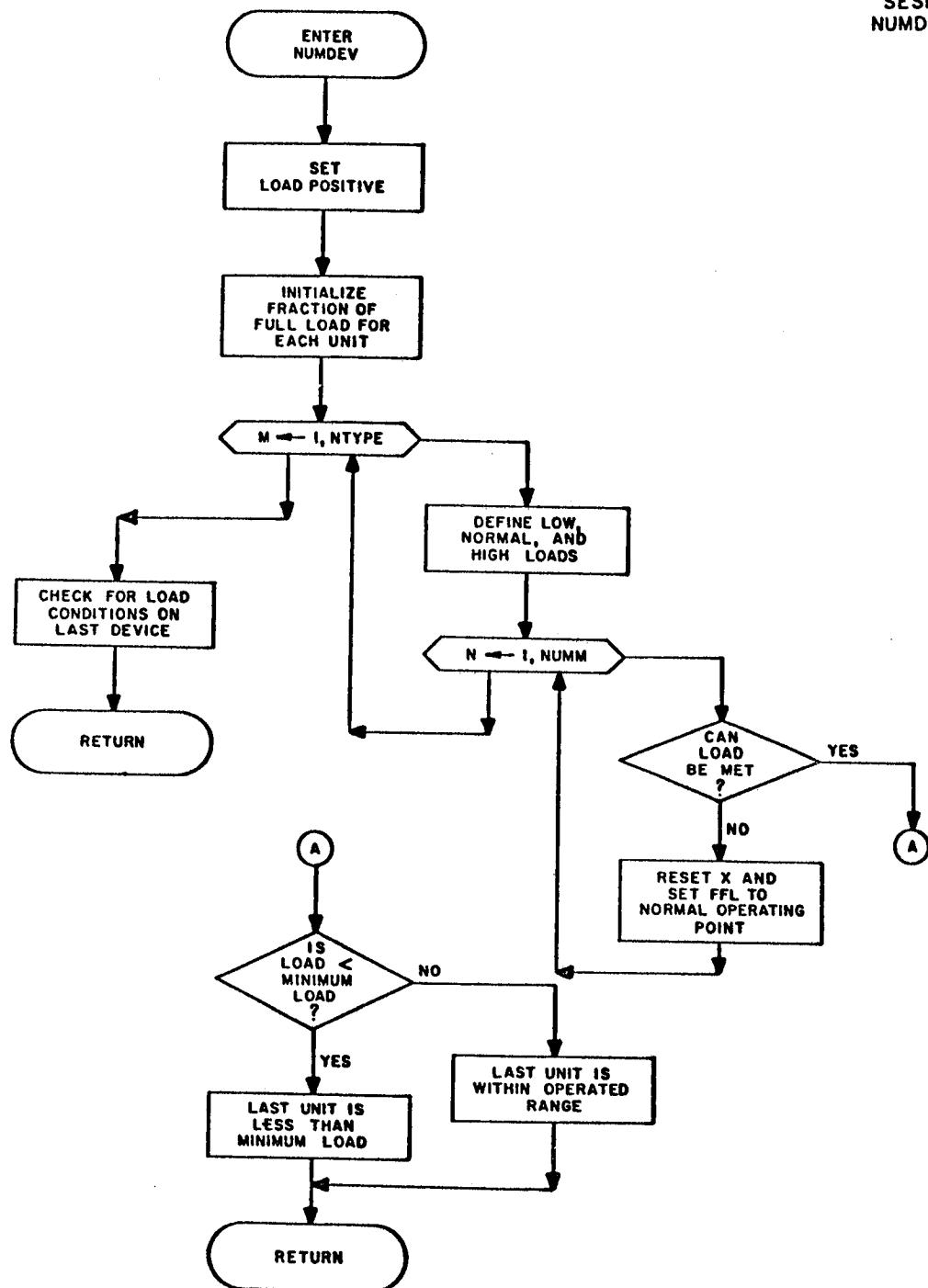


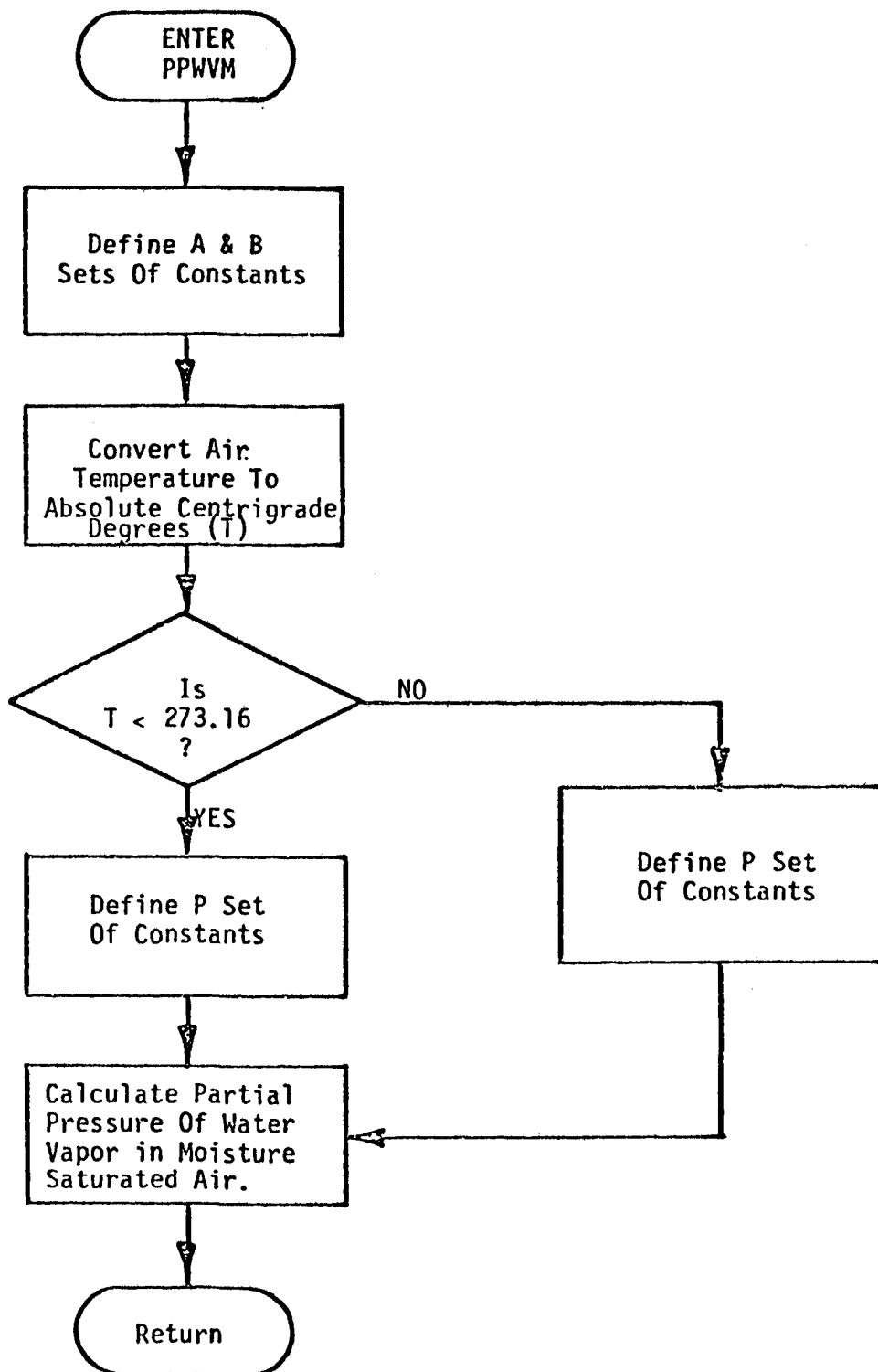
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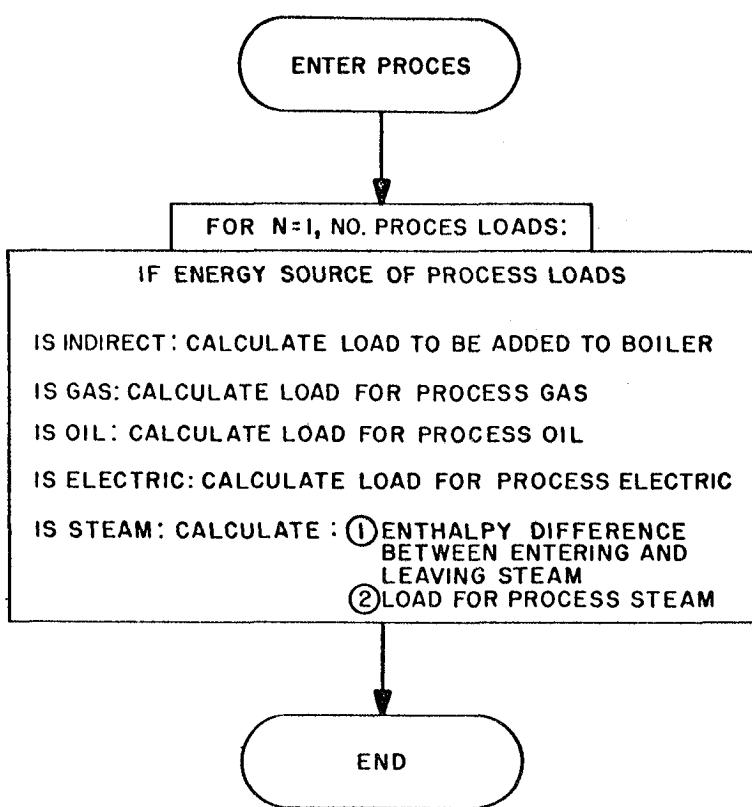
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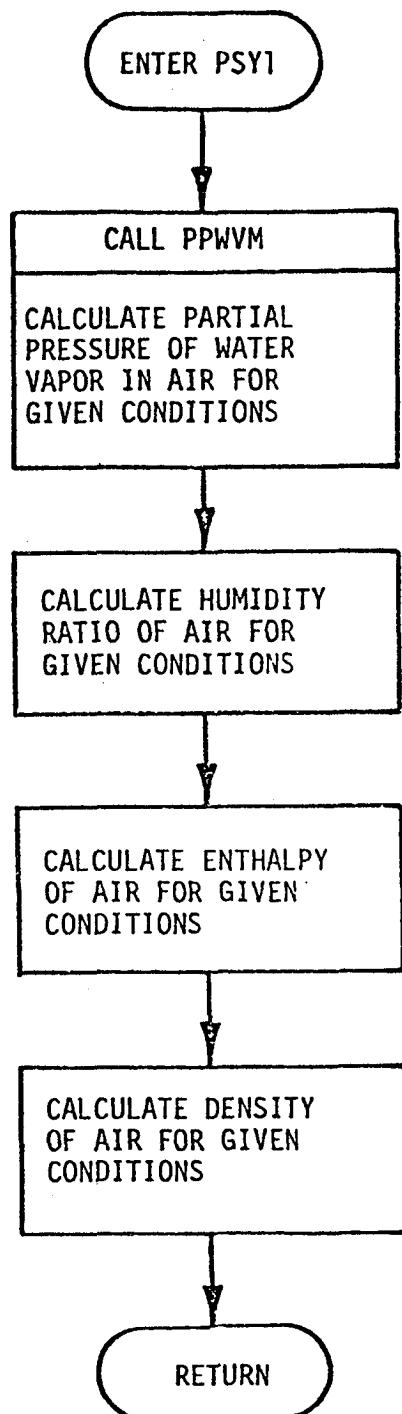


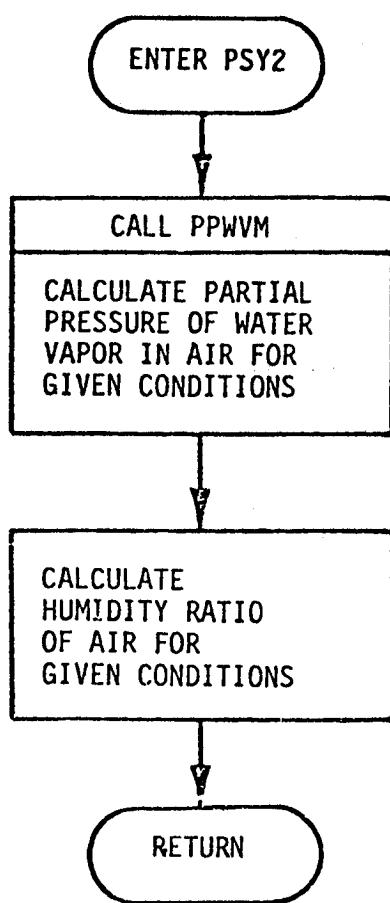
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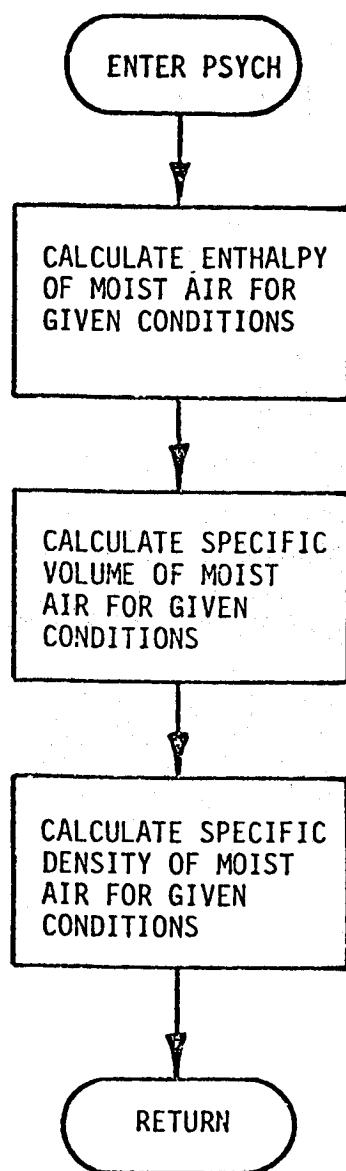


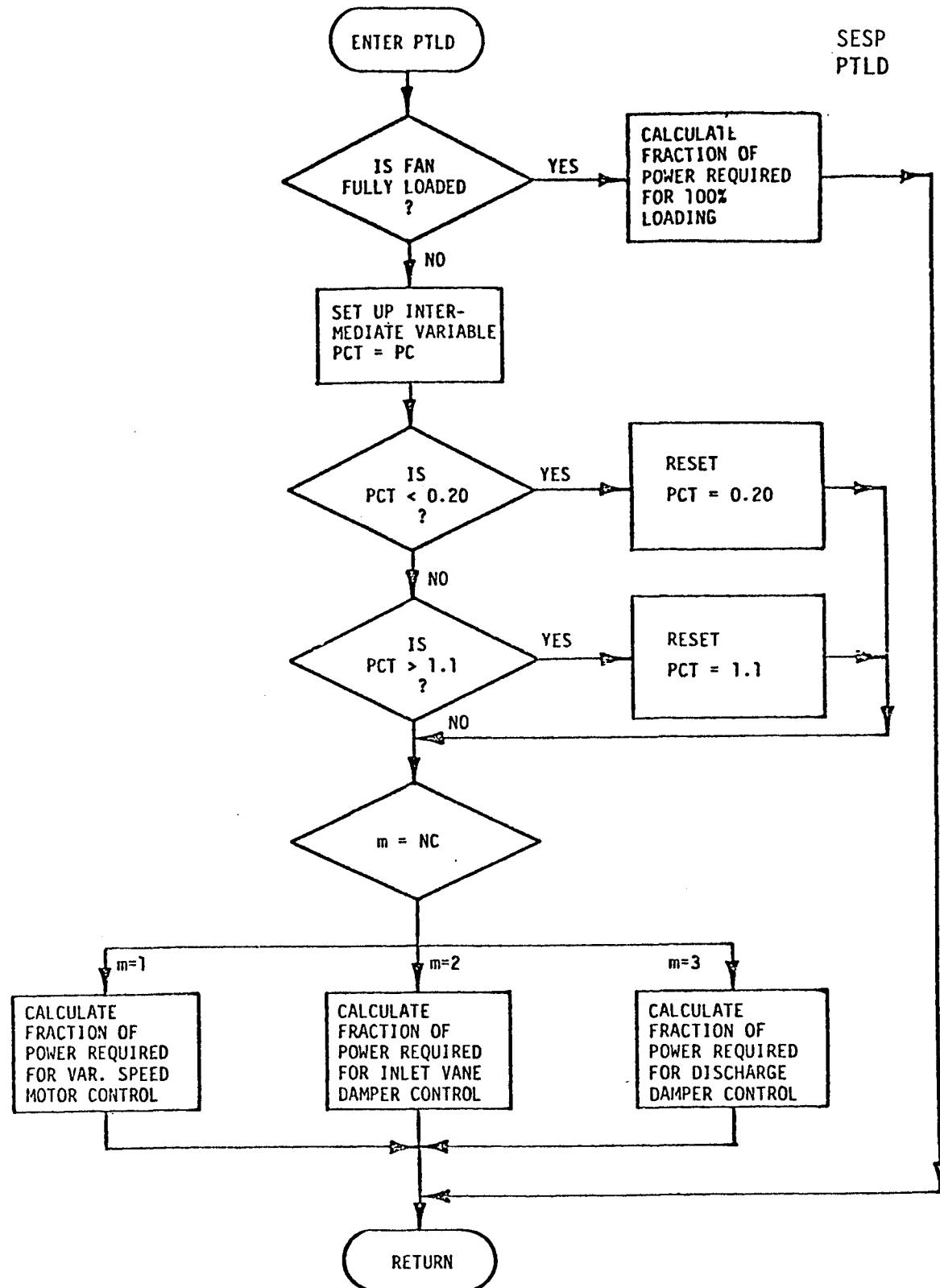


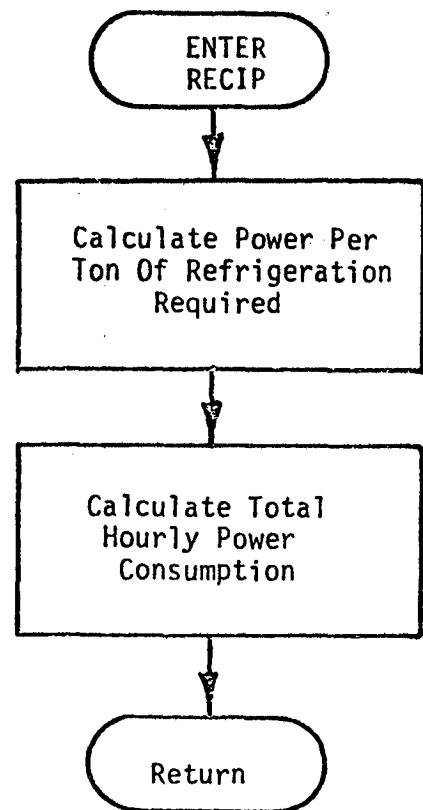


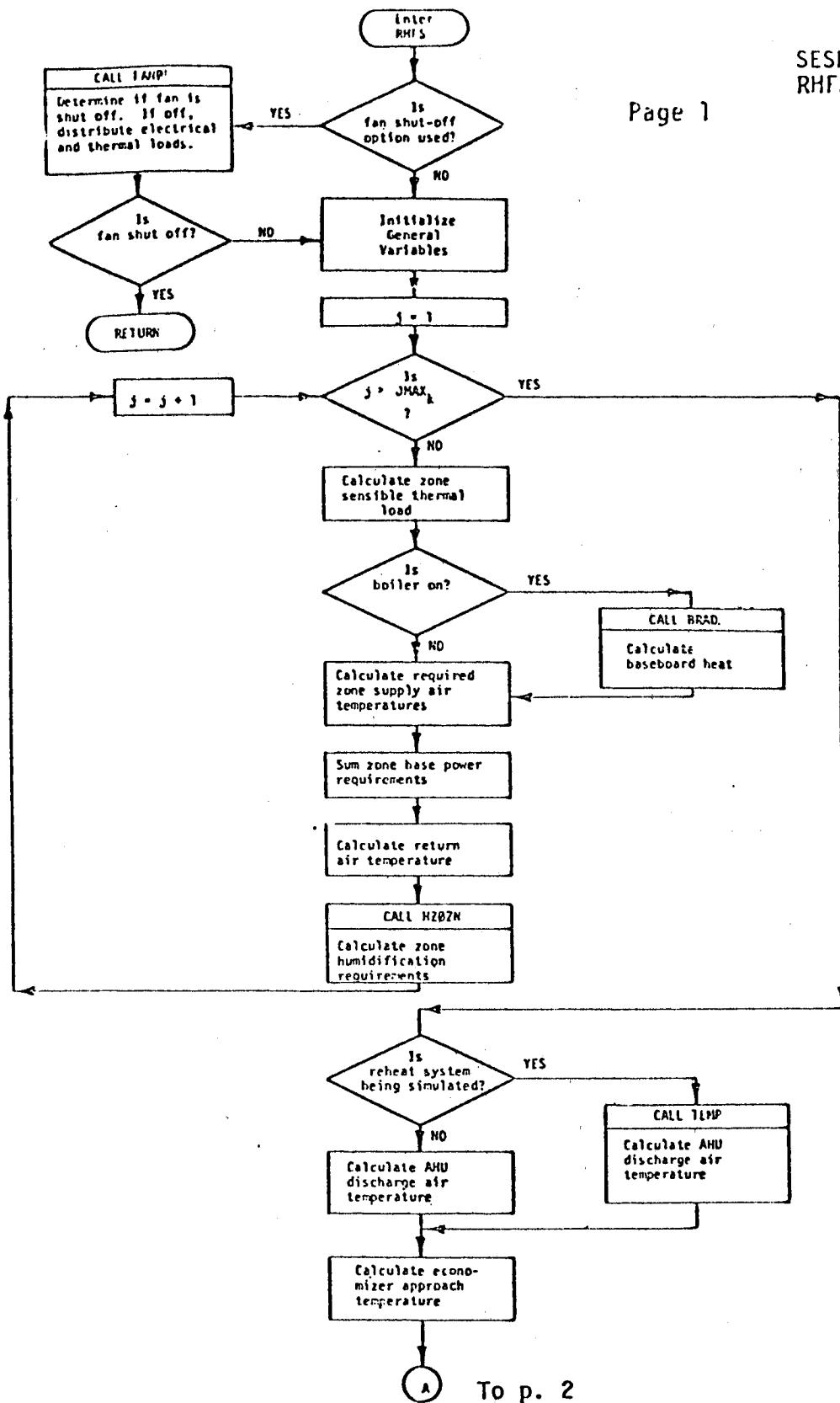


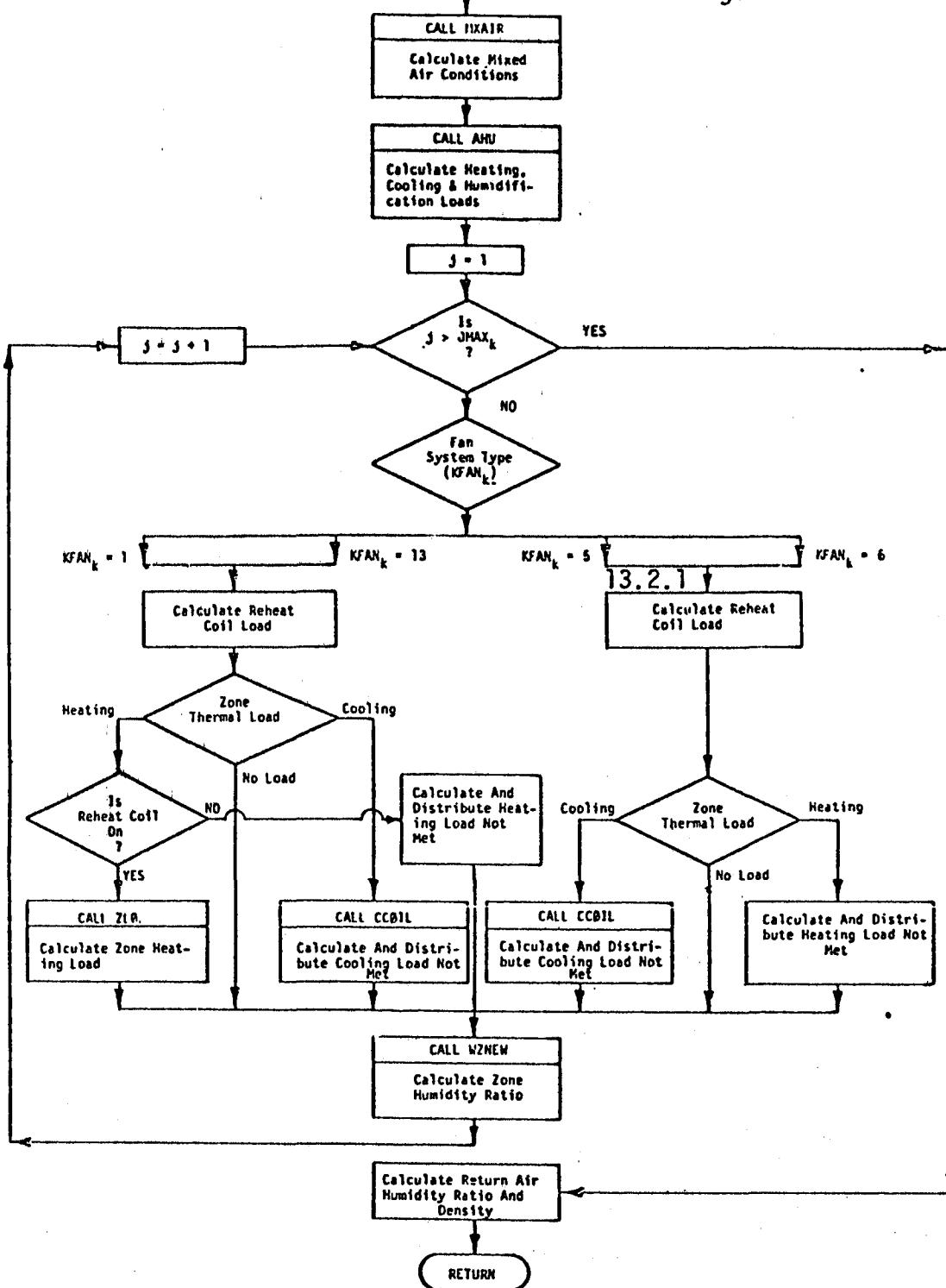




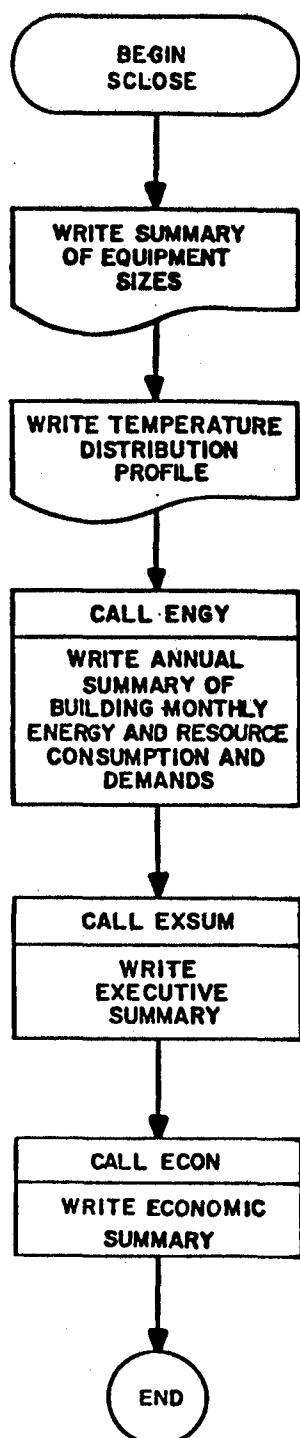


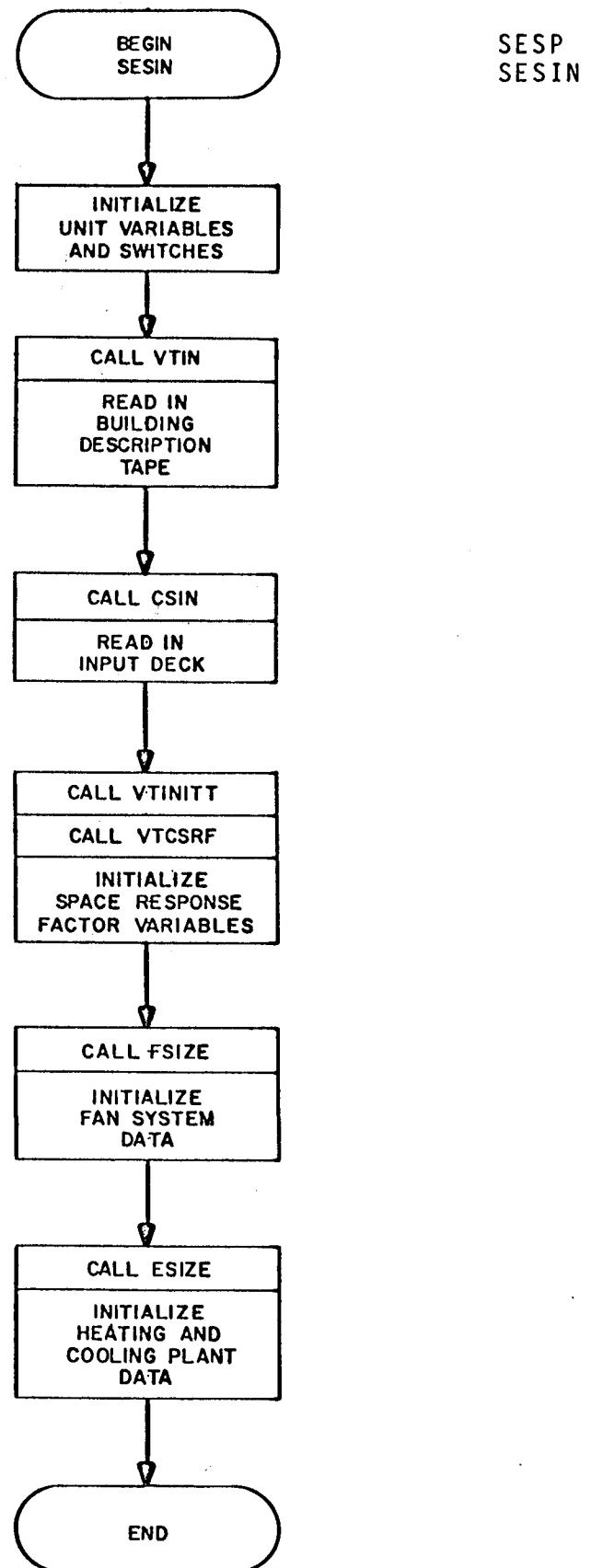






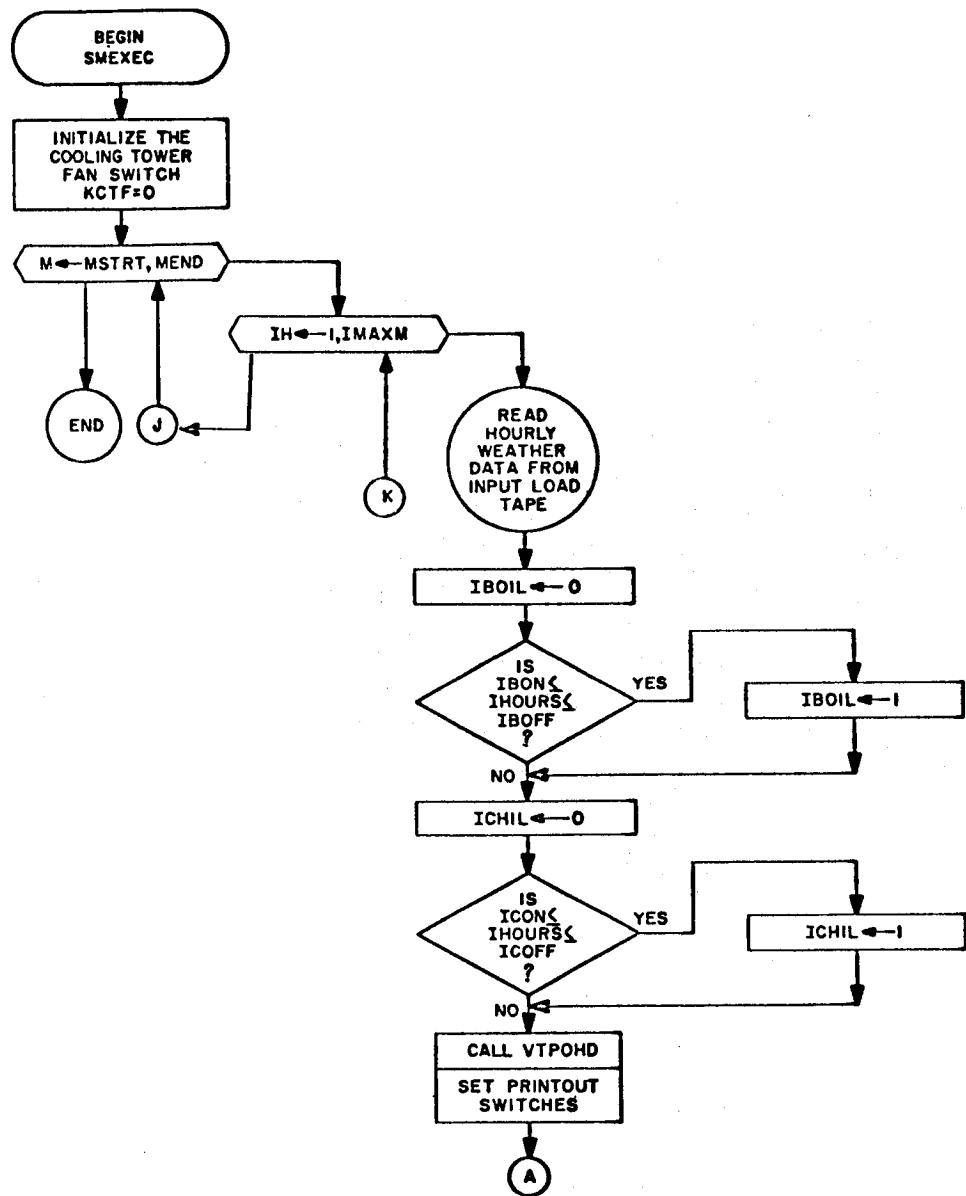
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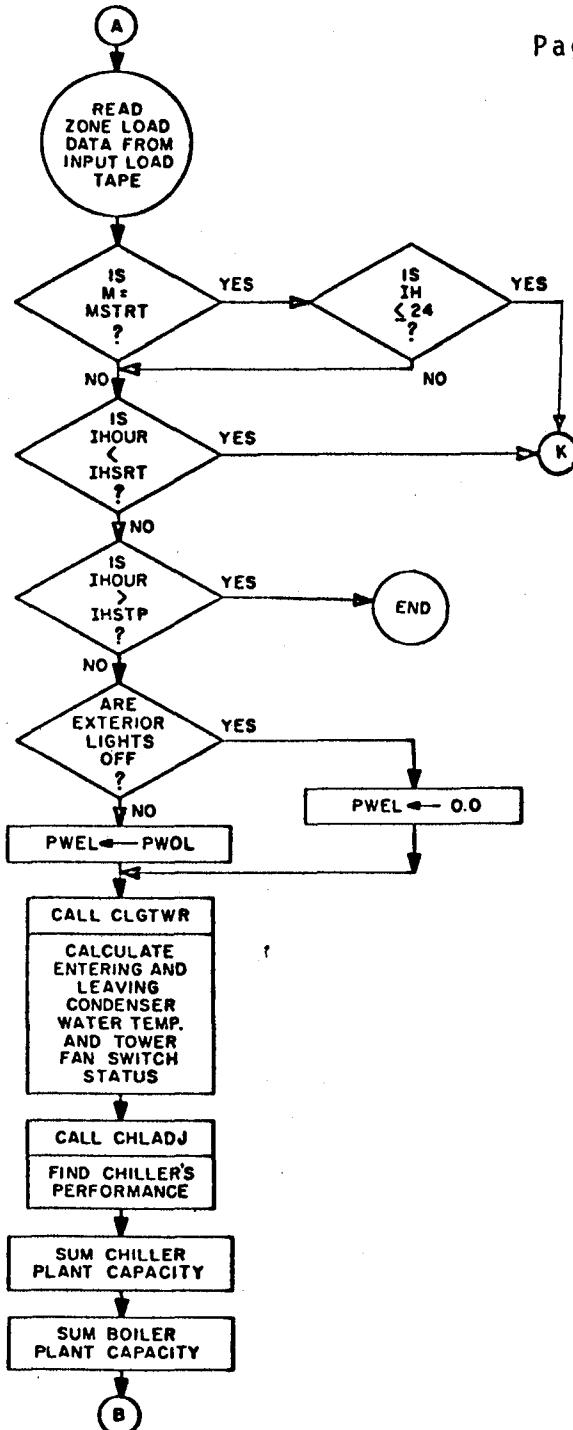


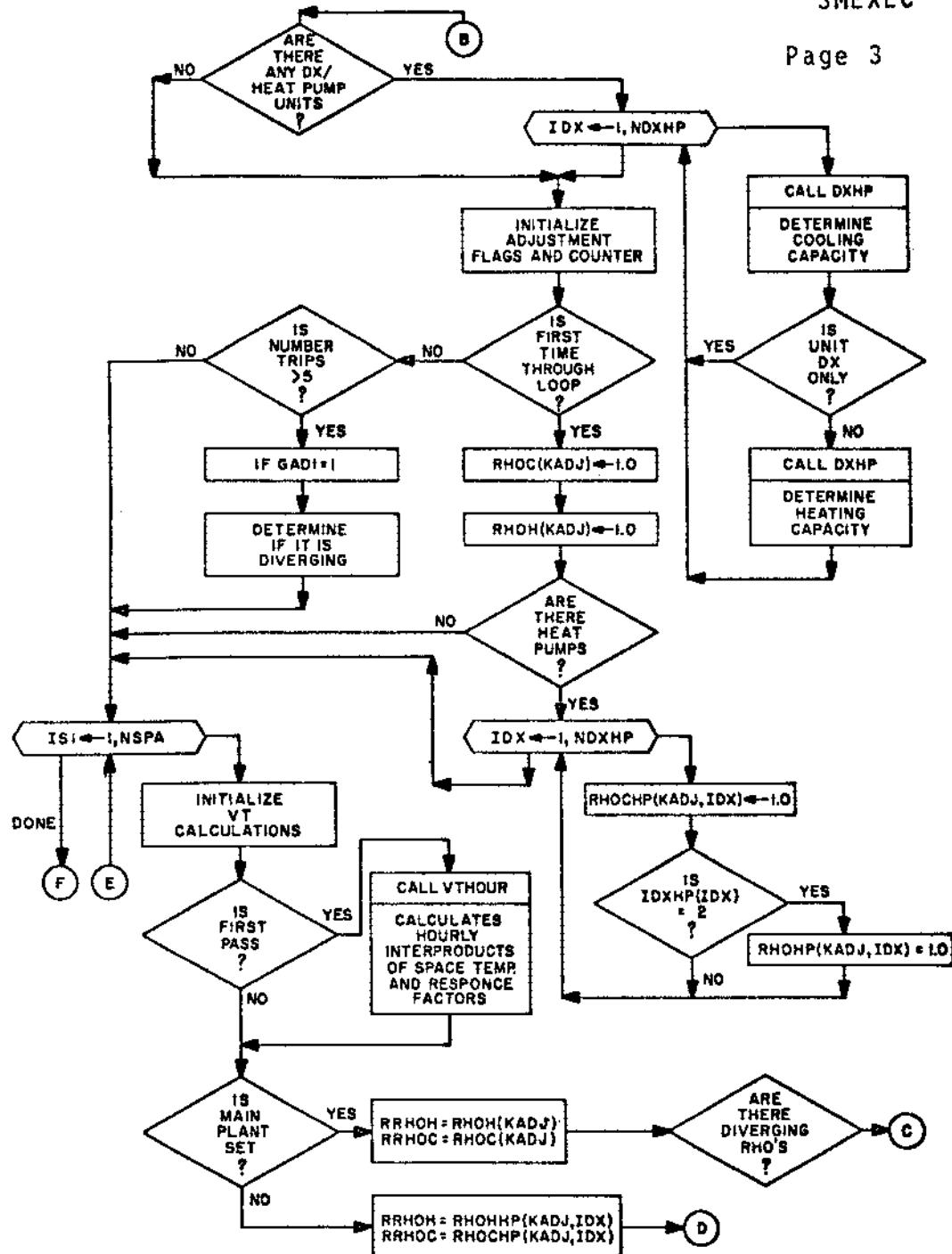


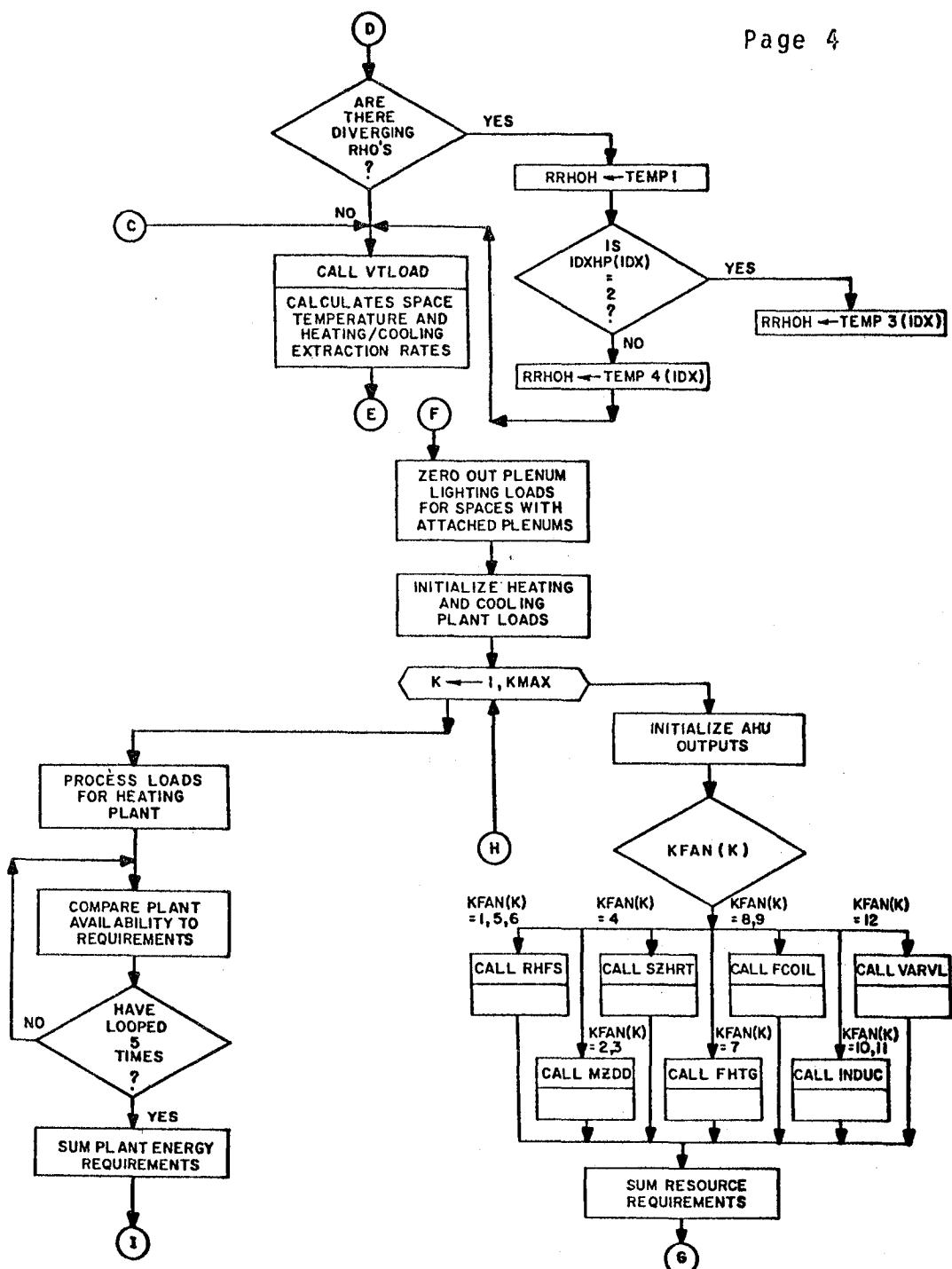
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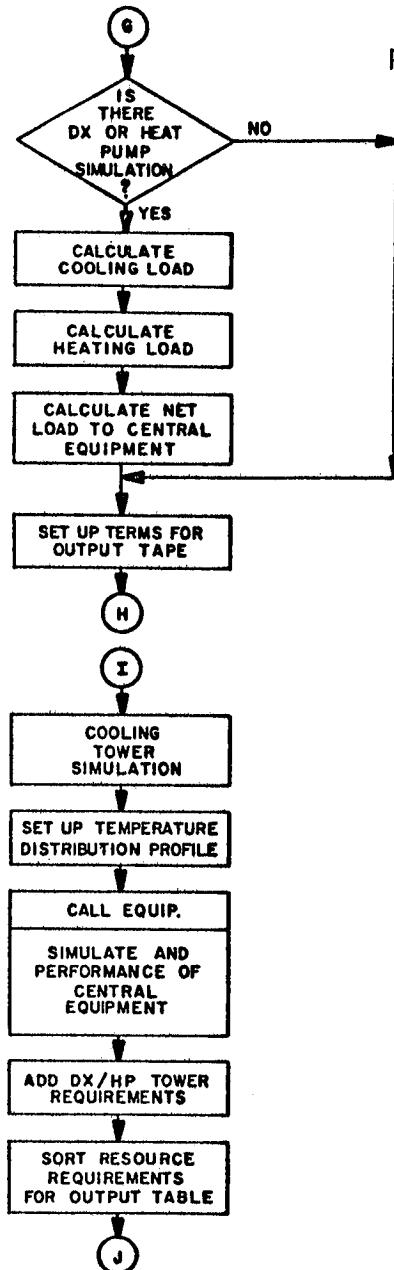
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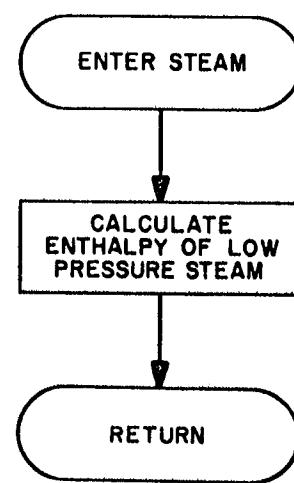


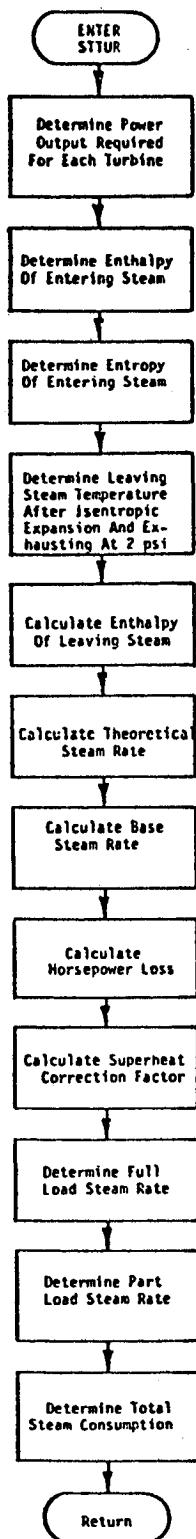


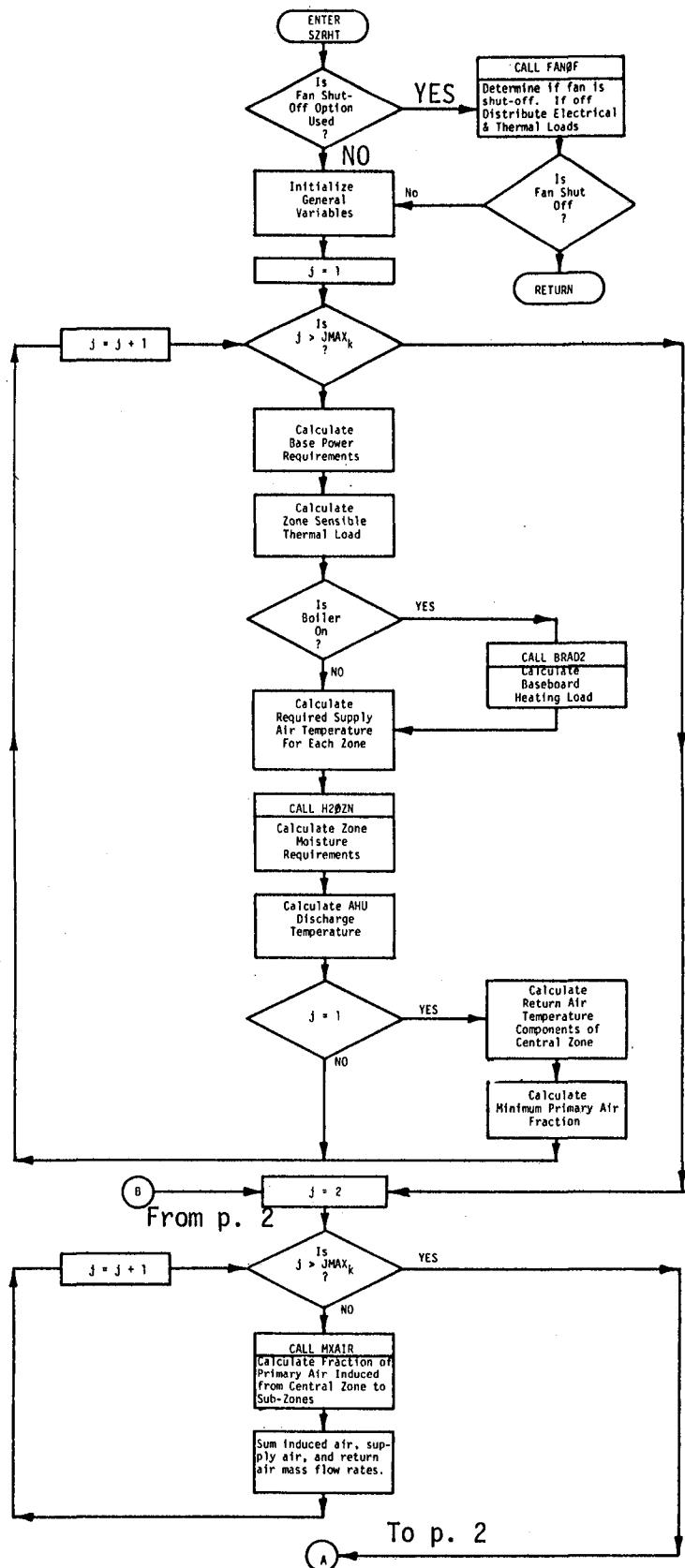


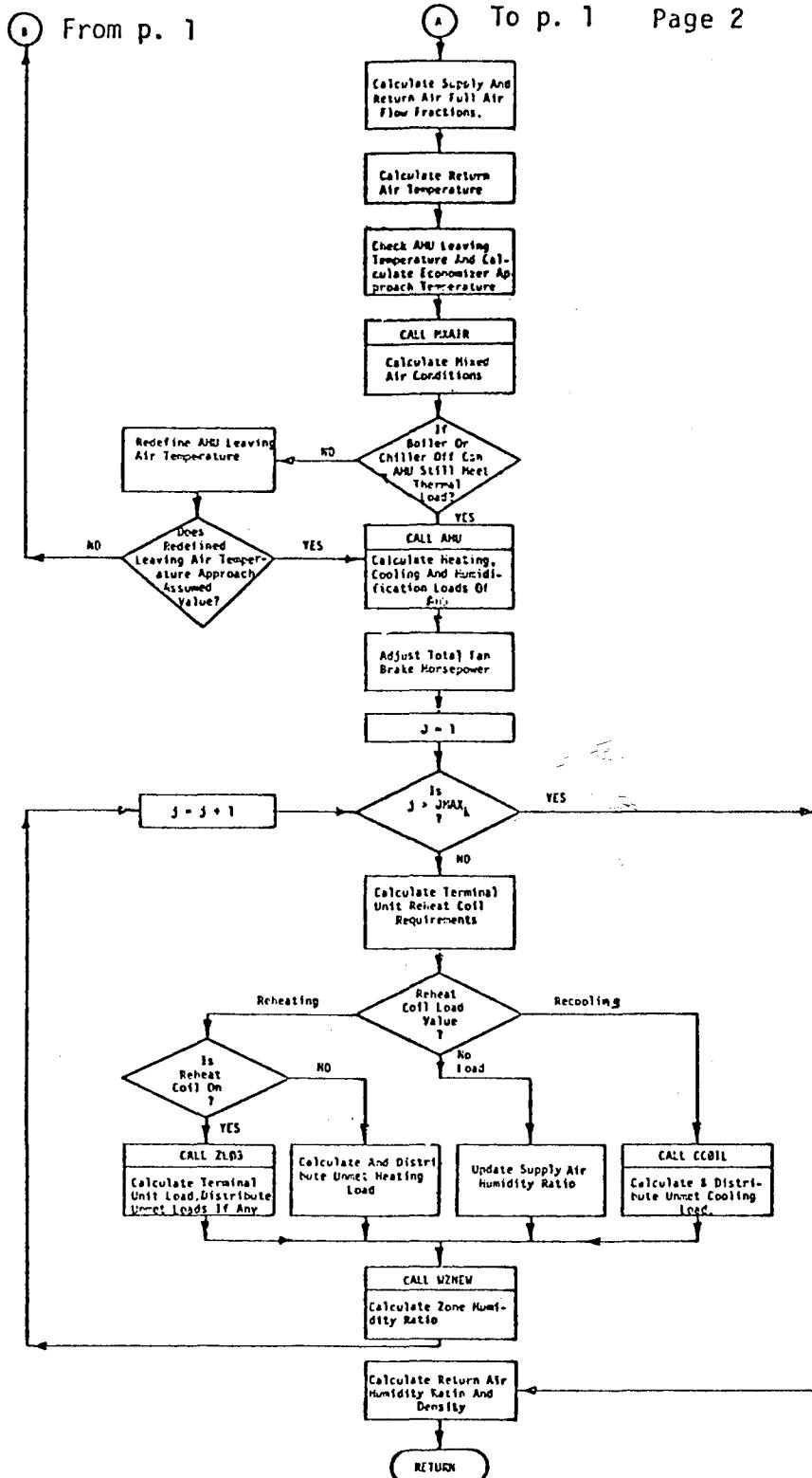


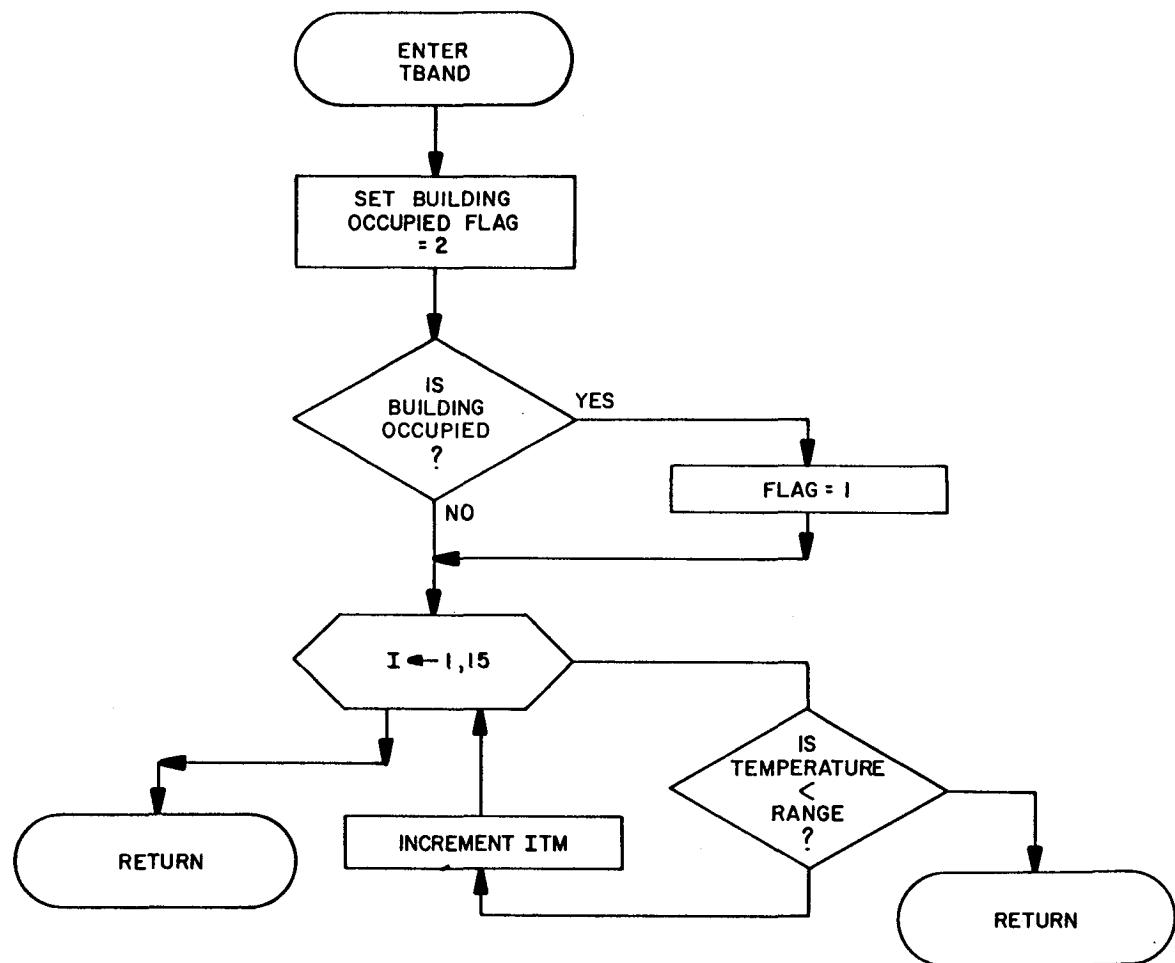




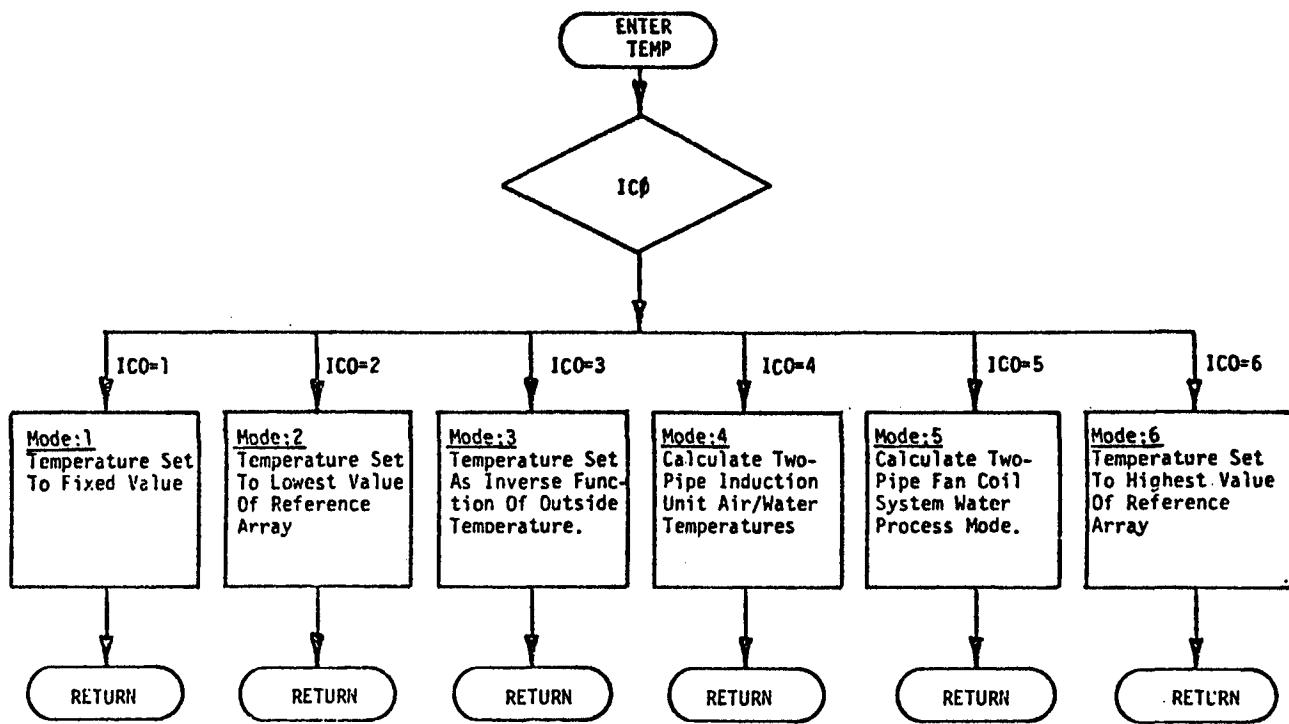




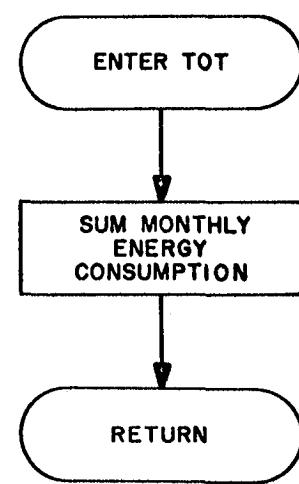


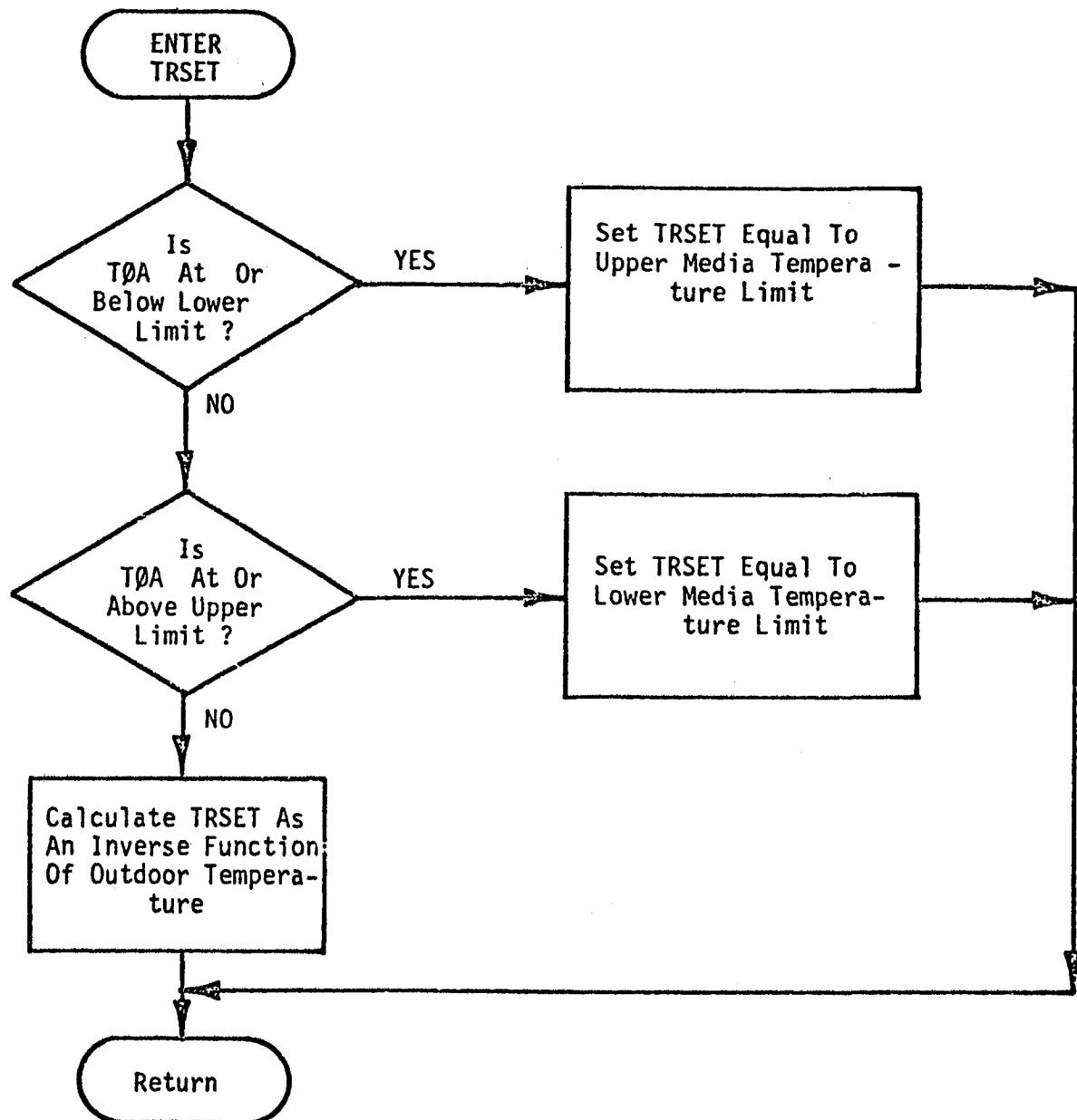


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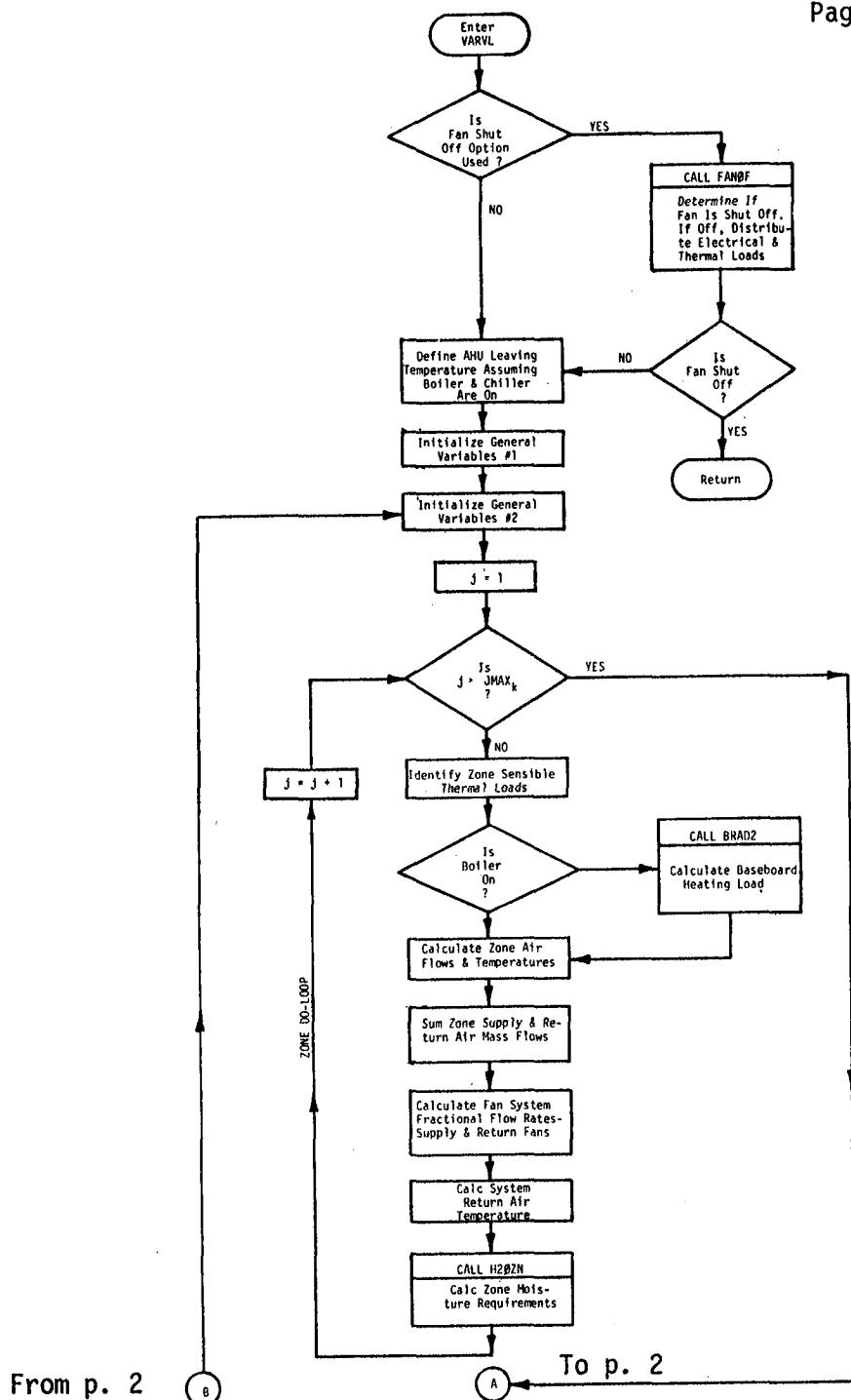
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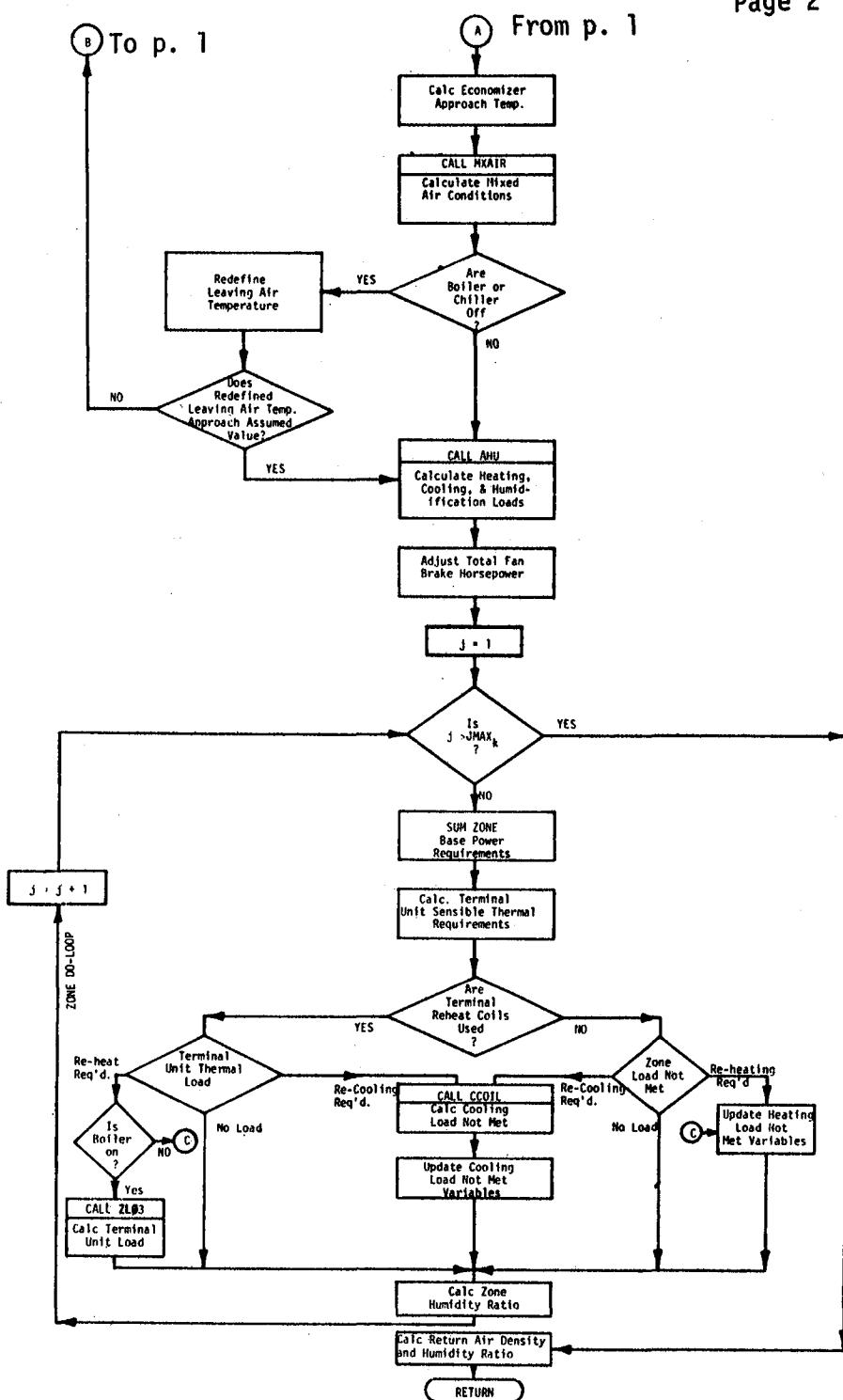
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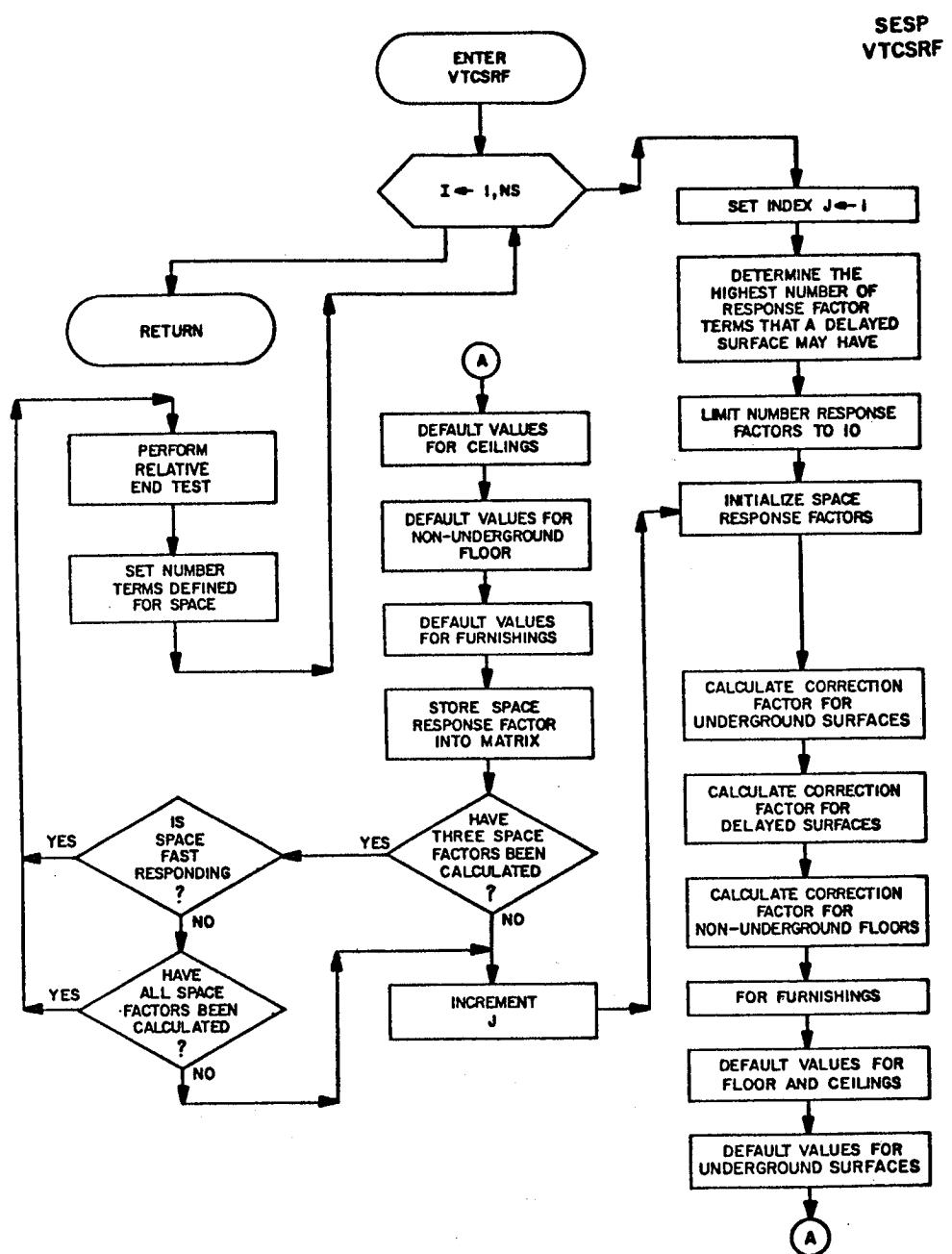
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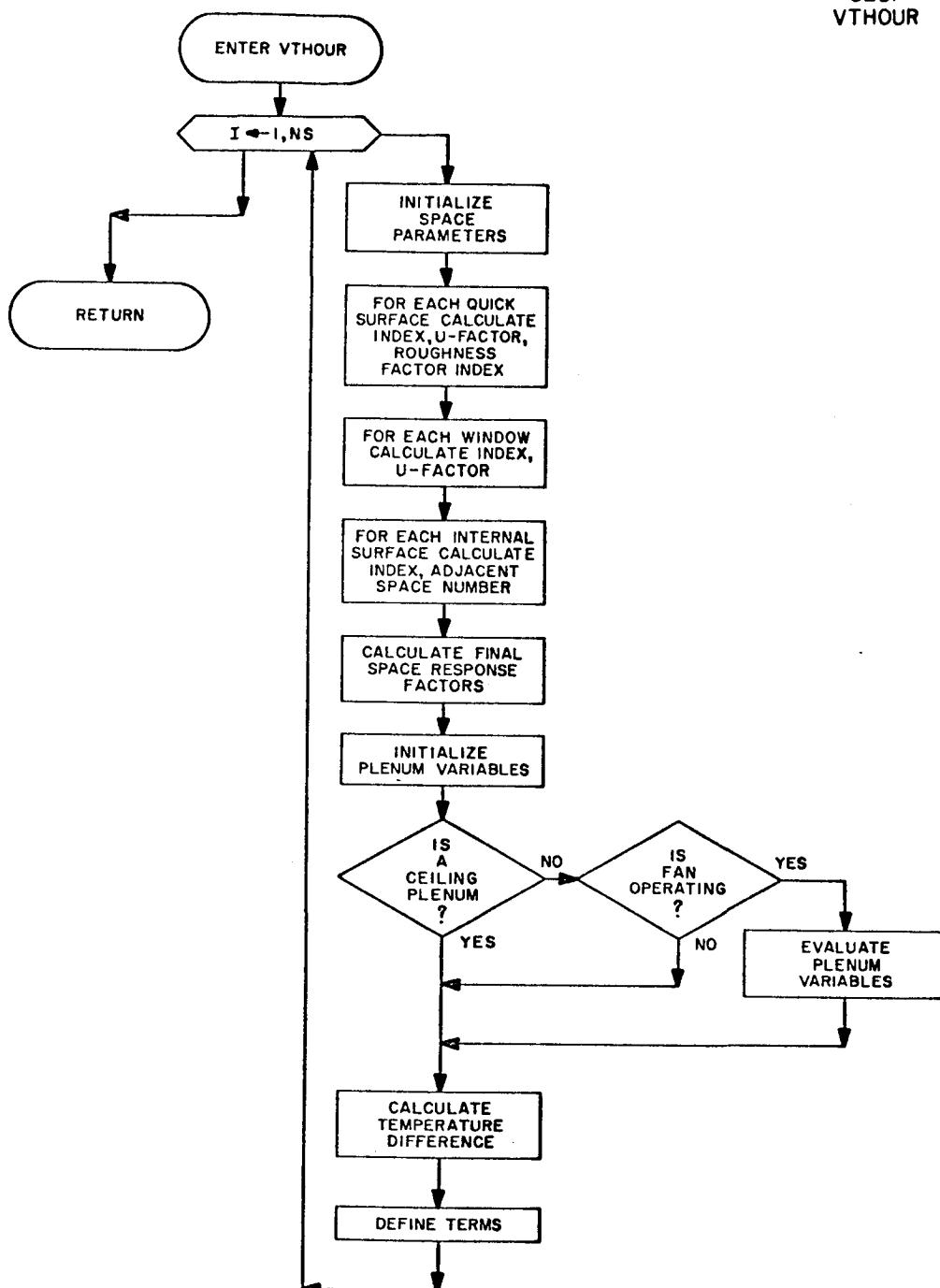
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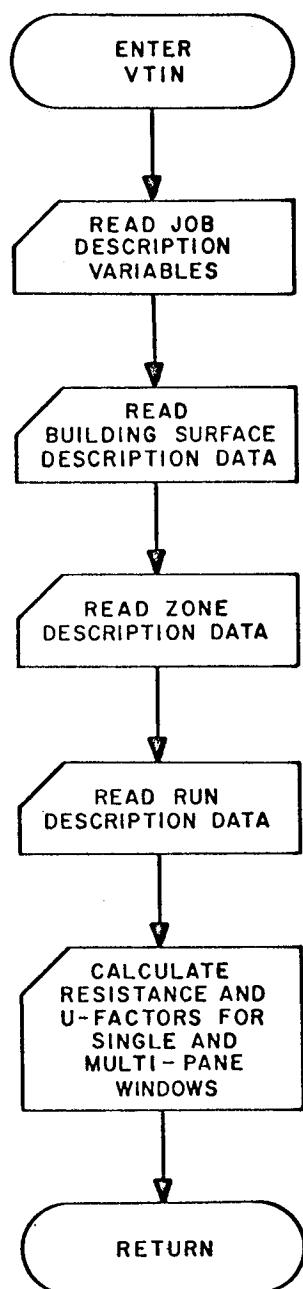
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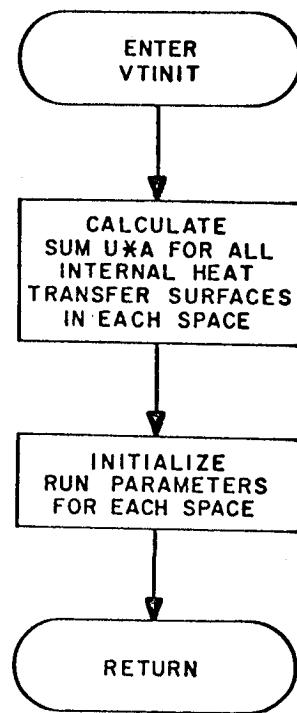


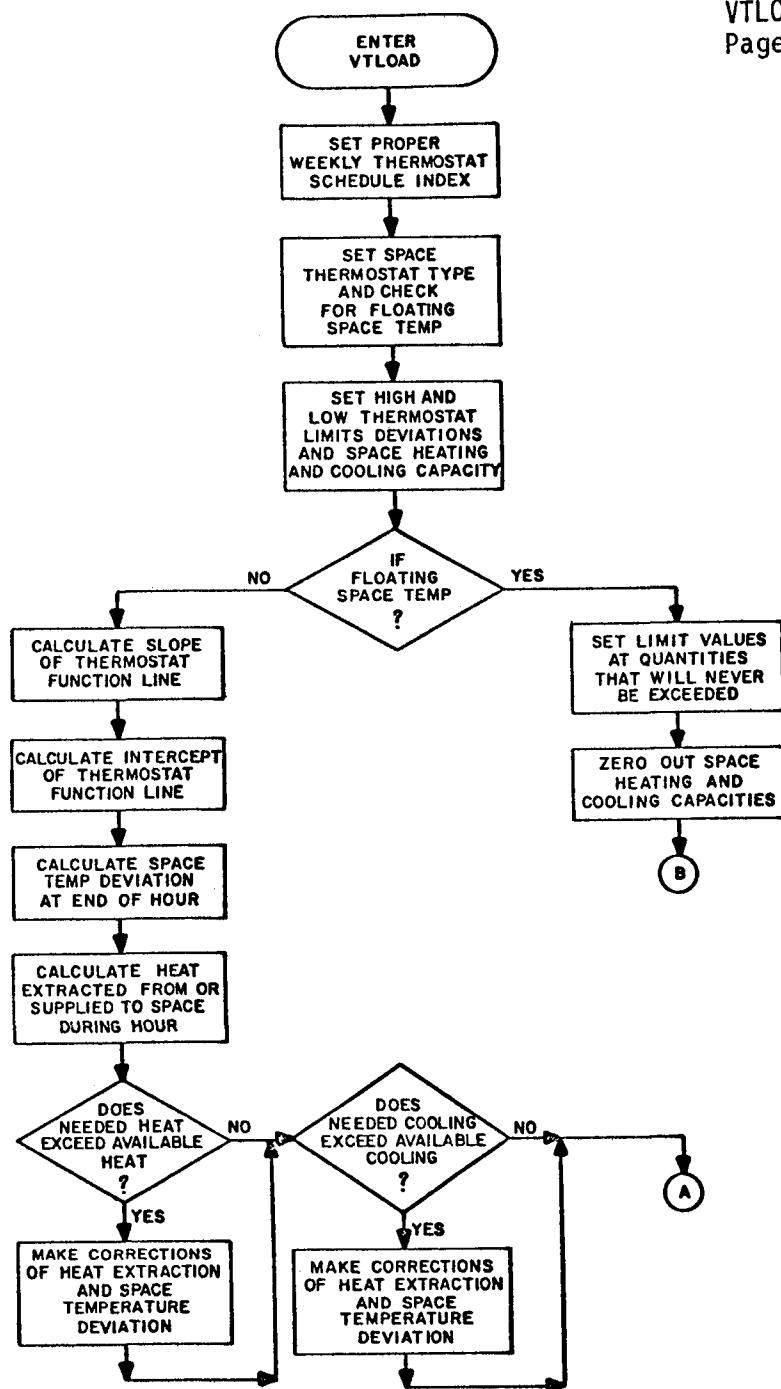
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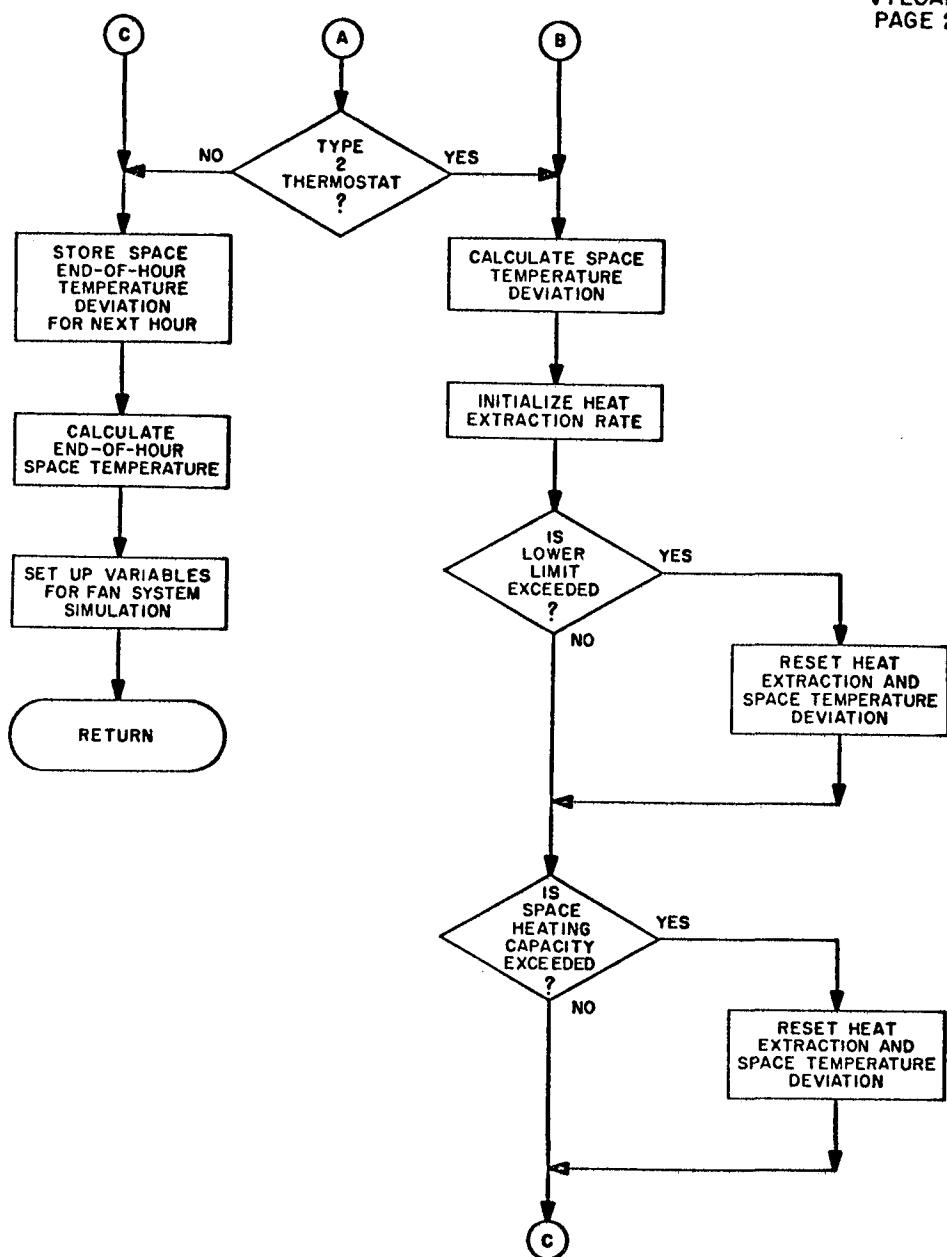


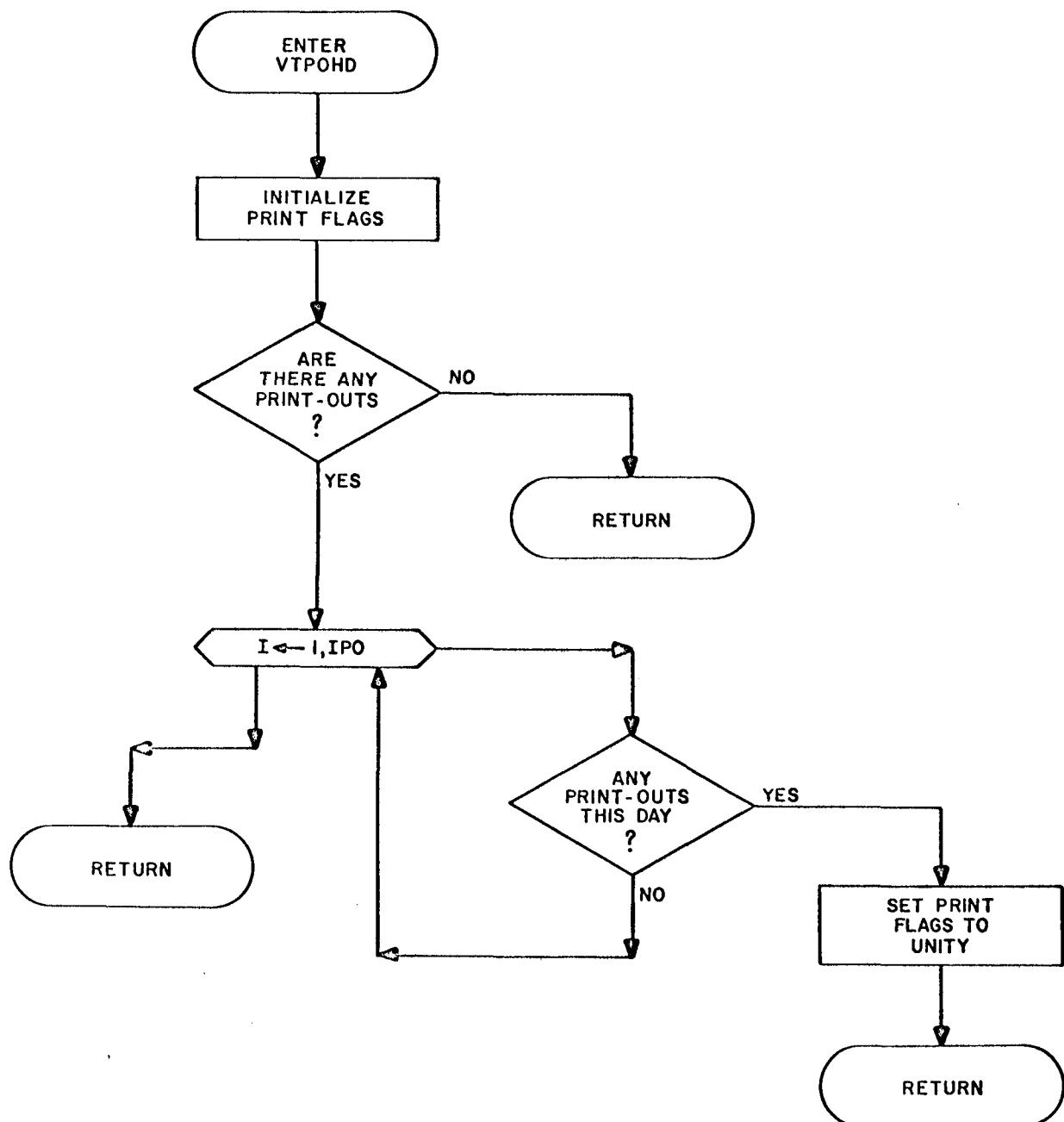


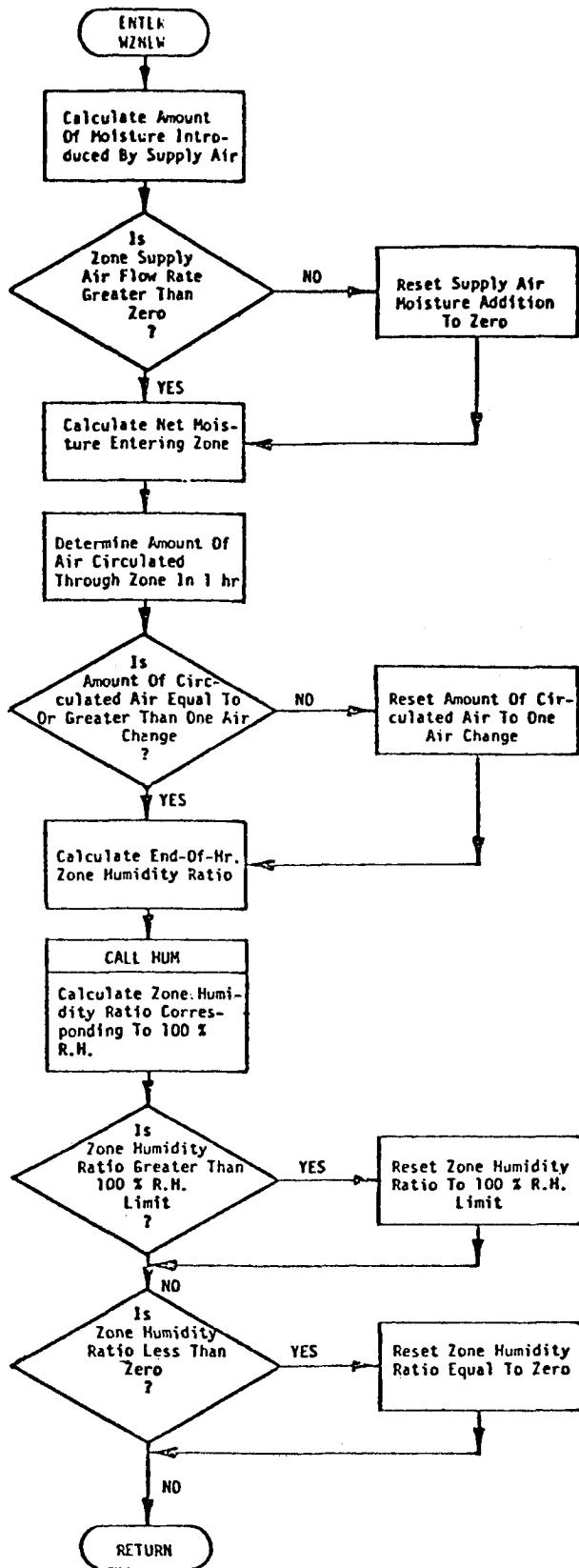
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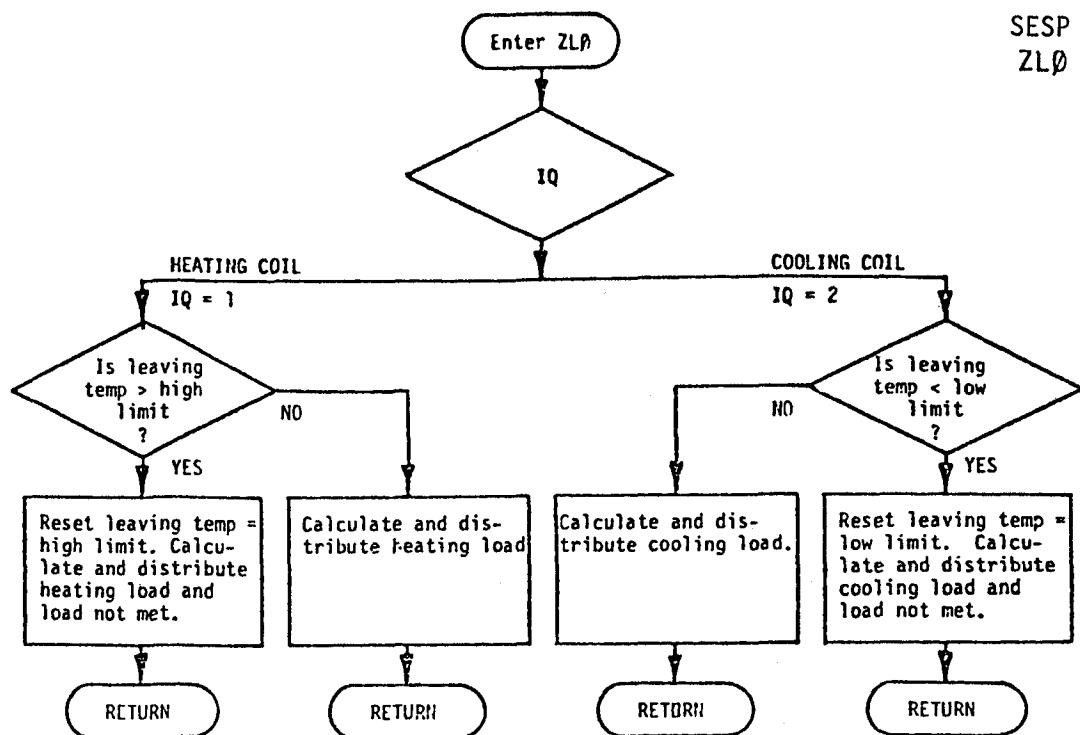








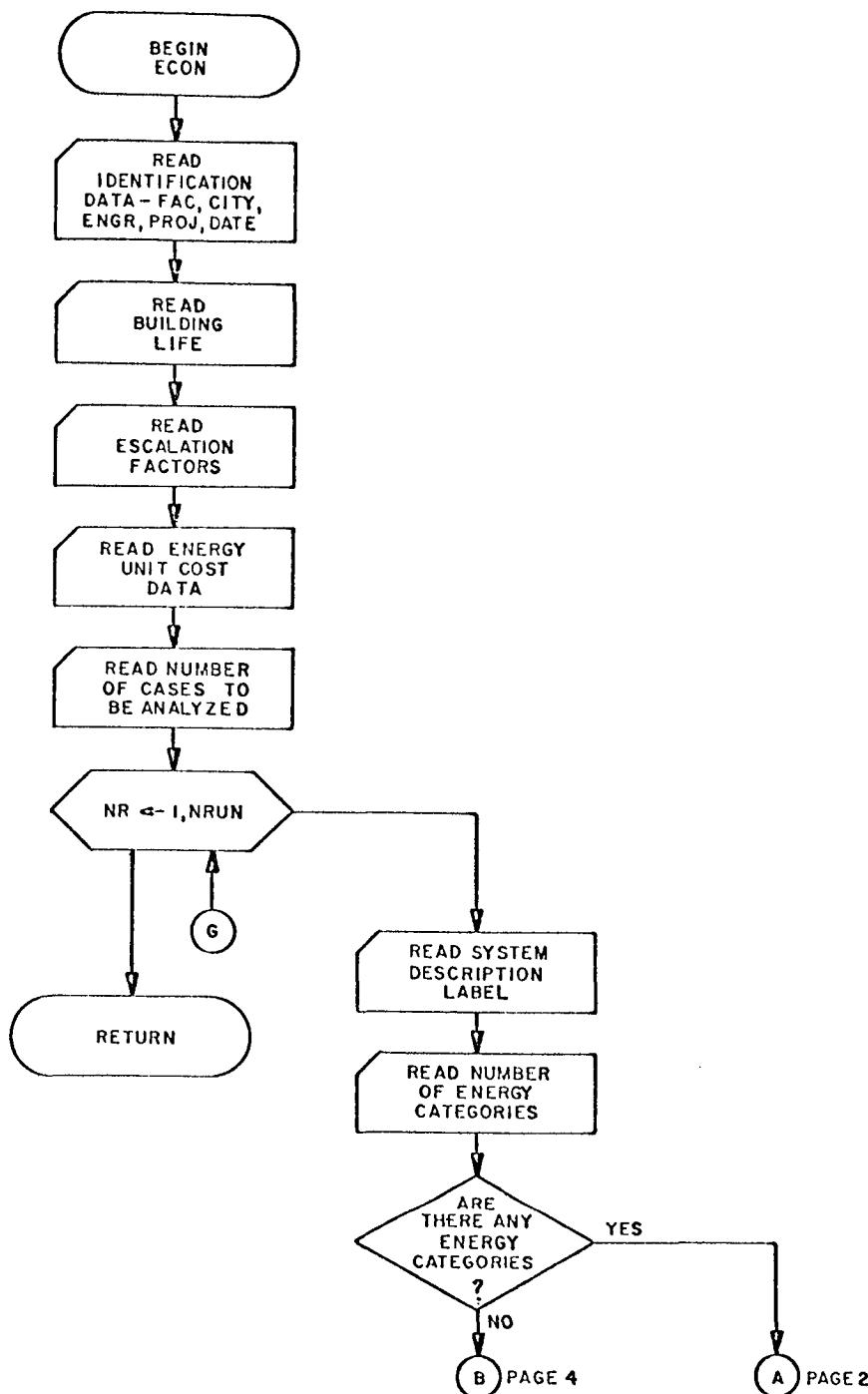
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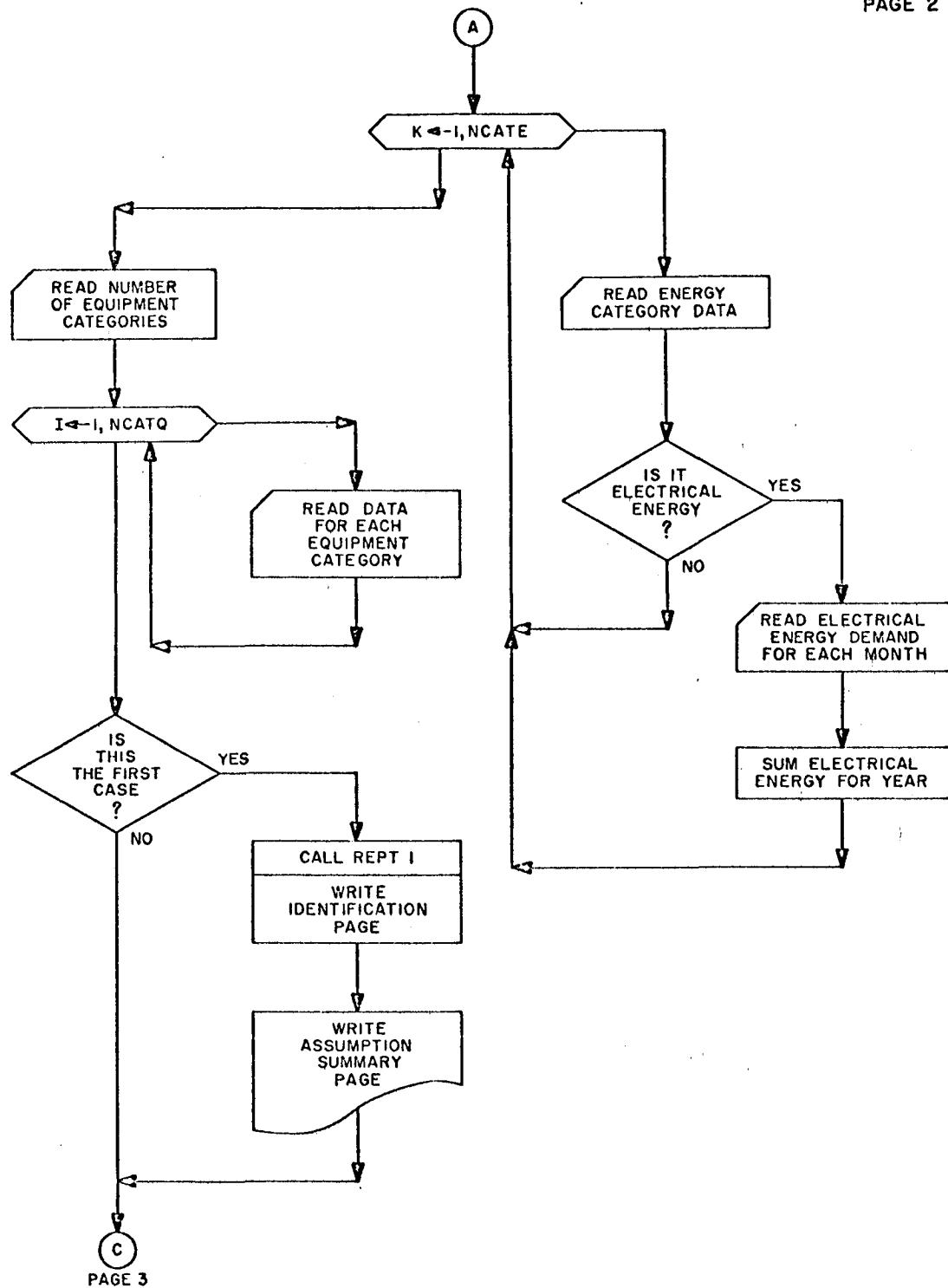


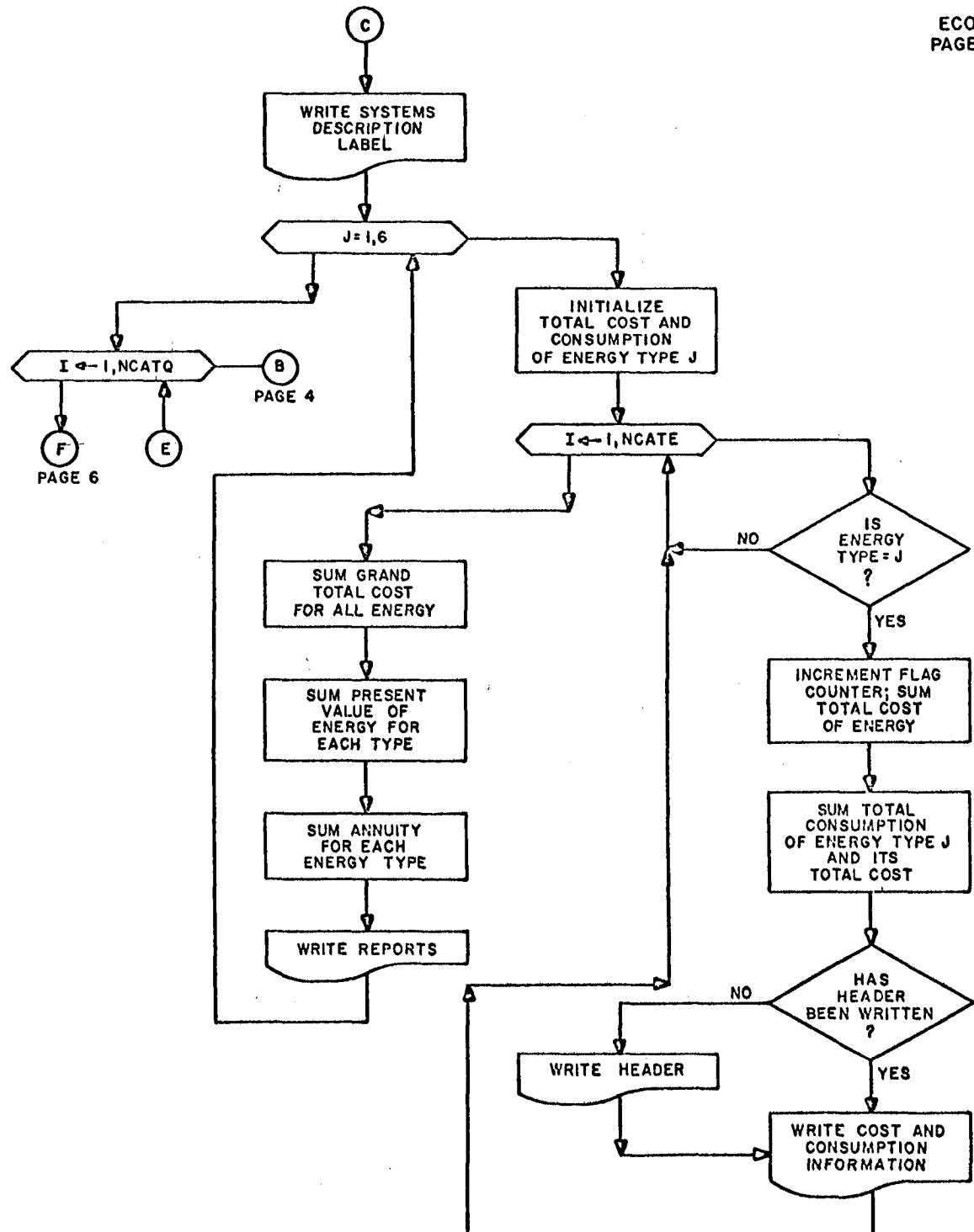


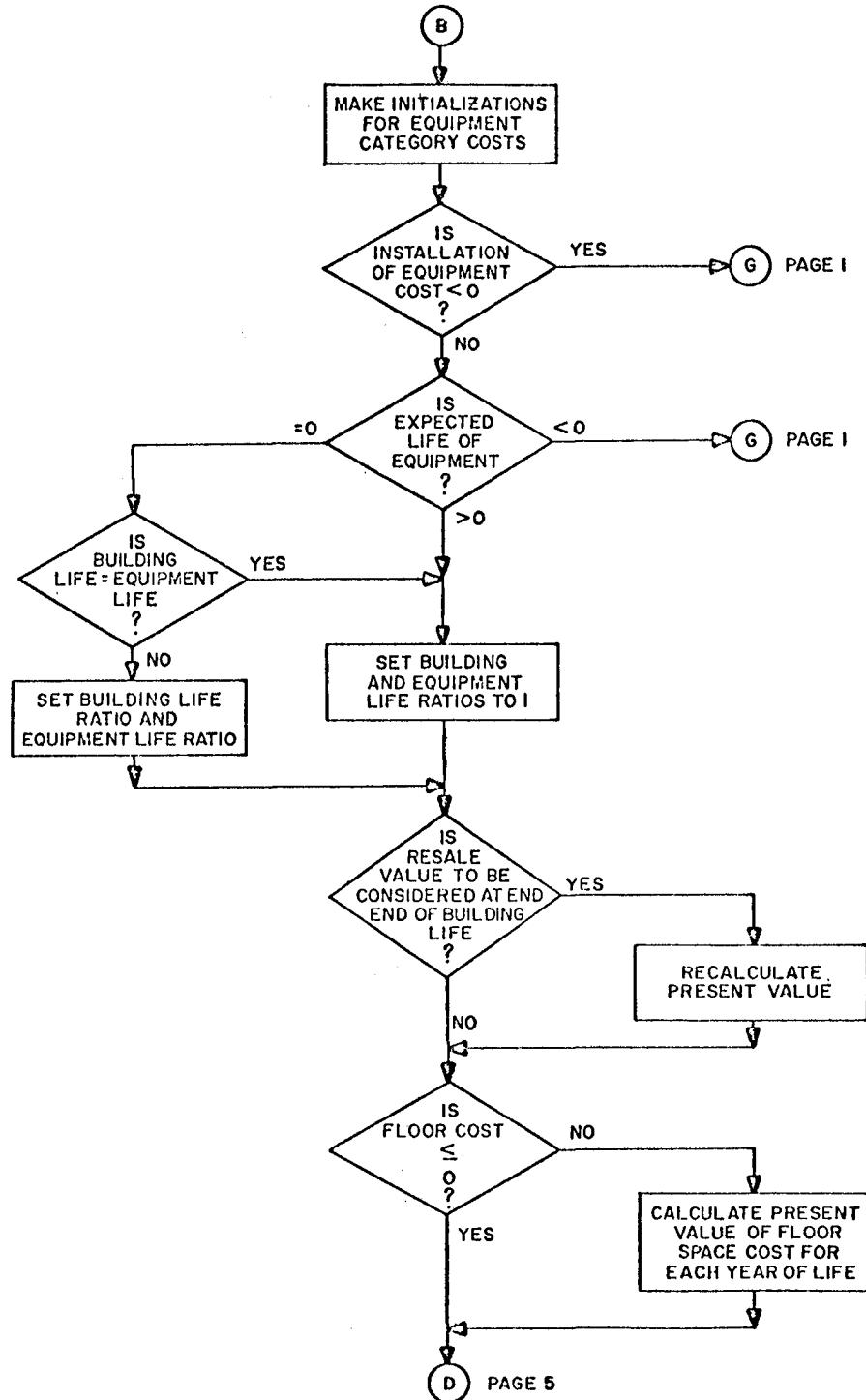
**Section 5**  
**OWNING AND OPERATING COST PROGRAM**

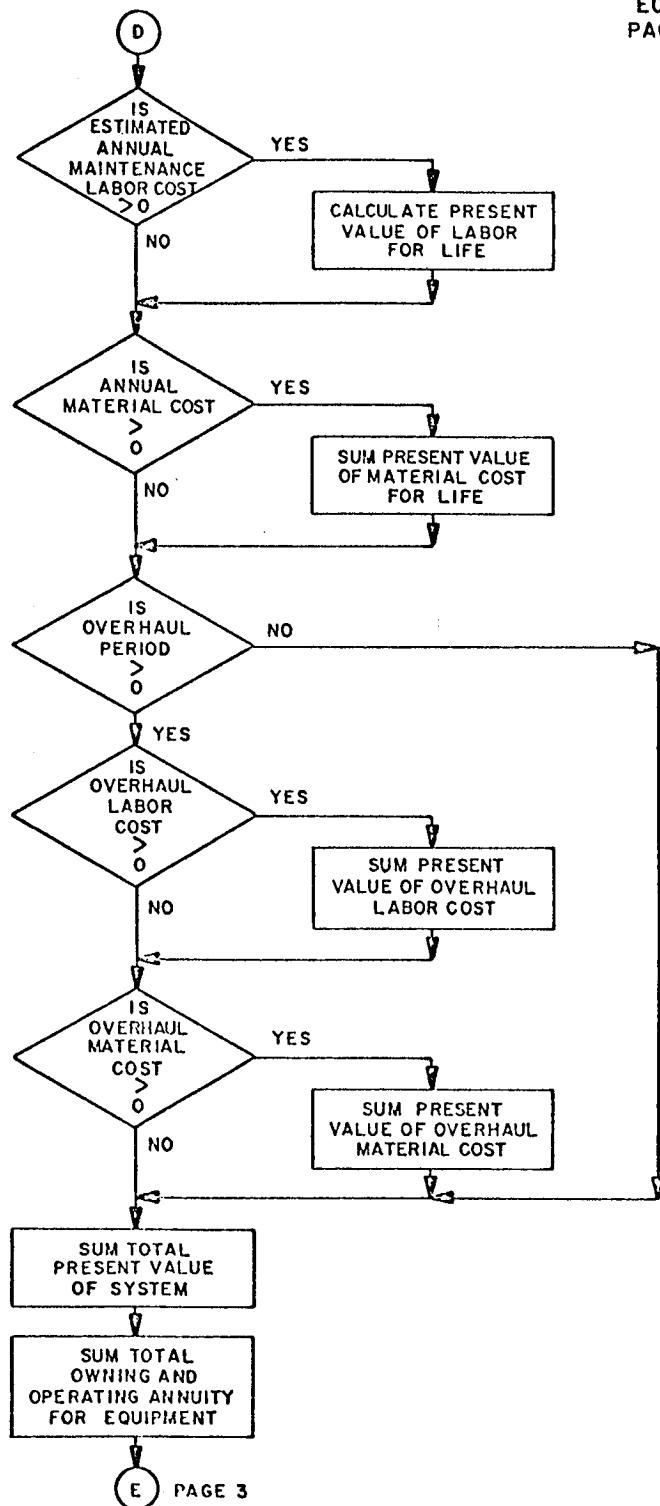


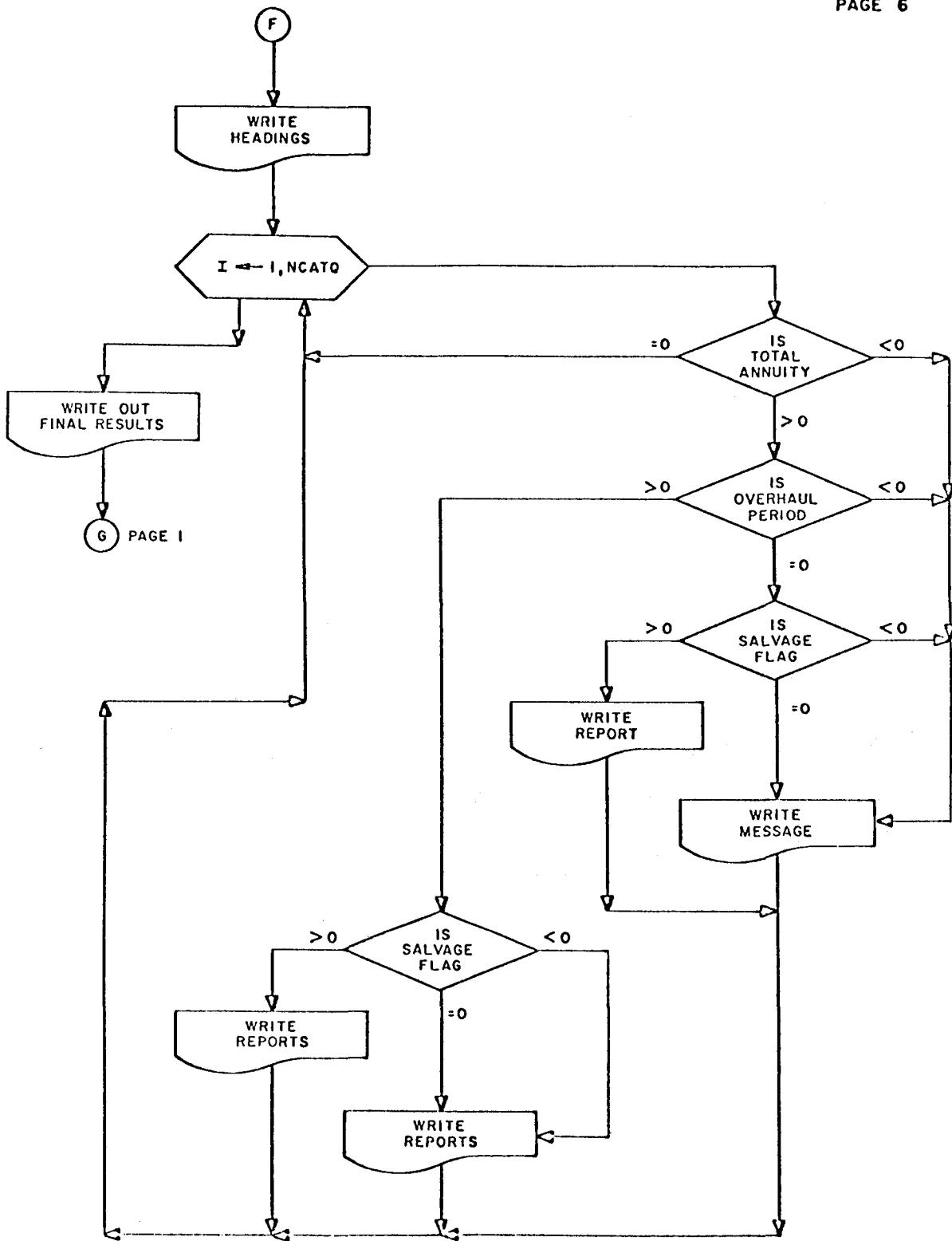


















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16. Abstract  NASA's Energy-Cost Analysis Program (NECAP) is a powerful computerized method to determine and to minimize building energy consumption. The program calculates hourly heat gain or losses taking into account the building thermal resistance and mass, using hourly weather and a "response factor" method. Internal temperatures are allowed to vary in accordance with thermostat setting and equipment capacity.  NECAP 4.1 is a updated version of NECAP published in 1975 (see CR2590, Parts I and II). It has a simplified input procedure and numerous other technical improvements. Documentation consist of a Users Manual, Engineering Manual, Input Manual, Fast Input Manual and Example, Engineering Flow Chart Manual and an Operations Manuals (specifically for LaRC's Computer System).  This manual supports the "Engineering Manual" (TM 832340) by providing flow charts for the program.			
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